



HOSPITAL IS TOLD IT MUST IMPROVE

By Lisa Wright

CANNOCK Chase Hospital has been told aspects of care 'require improvement' after inspectors uncovered staffing shortages and 'many' patients falling.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) delivered the verdict on The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) following an inspection.

The trust took over Cannock Chase Hospital last year in the wake of the scandal at Stafford Hospital. Chief executive David Loughton said he was 'disappointed' with the rating and that an action plan had been put in place.

At Cannock Chase Hospital, in Brunswick Road, urgent and emergency services, medical care, outpatients and diagnostic imaging required improvement. Surgery and end of life care were rated 'good' overall.

The inspection uncovered: staffing shortages in the minor injuries unit; cases of 'many patients falling'; improvements in safety needed; and poor infection control seen during inspection.

And on one medical care ward at Cannock Chase, inspectors said: "The ward was covering their own nursing staffing shortfalls on a continual basis with limited access to bank or agency cover which was unsustainable."

Outstanding

The CQC's chief inspector of hospitals, Prof Sir Mike Richards, said: "Our inspectors found that some improvements were needed at The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust. We have seen that progress has already been made and we found several areas of outstanding practice. "Since our inspection we have been monitoring the trust and working closely.

"The trust leadership knows what it needs to do to bring about improvement and our inspectors will return at a later date to check on what progress has been made."

The findings of the inspection, which took place in June, also highlighted areas of 'outstanding' practice across the trust.

There was also praise for the trust's Swan Project, which aims to comfort bereaved relatives by handing back patients' jewellery in a box and their belongings in a canvas bag, rather than a plain plastic one.

The hospital trust disputed a number of 'factual inaccuracies' in the report and made 294 challenges.

The CQC accepted, clarified or amended 205 of the challenges, but this did not result in any substantive changes across the report's findings.

At Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital, also part of the trust, there were found to be night-time nurse shortages and sickness and staff shortages impacting morale.

● Patients at risk – Page 2

SIMPLE RULES LED TO 75 YEARS OF MARRIAGE



Everlasting love – Cannock couple George and Phyllis Loftus are celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary

FIVE golden rules have helped a Cannock couple to 75 years of marriage – a feat they reckon makes them the longest married couple in Staffordshire and the Black Country.

George and Phyllis Loftus, of Mulberry Road, wed on August 10, 1940 at Walsall Register Office. And Phyllis, aged 92, says guidelines given to her by her mother during the Second World War have helped their bond to stay strong. "There can't be many that have been married as long as us," she said. "My mother told me to stick to these rules and that's exactly what I've done for 75 years."

Phyllis reeled off the list in a matter of seconds: "Make do and mend – don't throw away and spend; don't buy things you haven't got the money in your purse to buy; always keep your husband well fed; don't let the sun go down on any wrath; and take time to discuss

any issues together." The pair met shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War when Phyllis, then a trainee nurse at Birmingham Children's Hospital, caught the train to Hednesford.

Her brother Douglas and his best friend George Loftus, both LMS railway firemen, decided to surprise her by waving to her from a steam engine at Rycroft Shed, near Walsall, when she passed by.

The following day Phyllis and George met for tea and two years later they tied the knot.

With money scarce Phyllis says the ceremony was not an elaborate affair, although the celebrations featured a 'splendid' roast pork dinner with a few guests at Dance's Café in Walsall. George continued as a railway fireman and served in the Home Guard during the war, before working as a pit labourer in

Cannock and at Albion Pressed Metal. Phyllis spent most of her life in public service.

She was elected as a Labour and Co-operative councillor in the mid-1950s.

She became a JP in 1963 and was chairman of the bench for four years and a magistrate for 30 years before retiring at 70. She also served as governor of four Cannock schools.

The couple lived in Smillie Place, Chaddsmoor, before moving to their current address in 1979. They celebrated their anniversary with a meal at the Seven Stars pub in Brocton surrounded by their family – son Raymond, 71, and his wife Gillian; granddaughters Theresa, 50, and Gaenor, 47, and great-grandchildren Jack, 20, Caenor, 18, and Grace, 13.

"We've never owned a house or a car, but we have some wonderful memories that haven't cost us a penny," Phyllis said.

PESTS

199 call-outs over rats in one year

PEST control officers were called out 199 times to deal with rats in part of Staffordshire last year. Between April 2014 and March 2015, they also responded to 61 calls about mice and 229 reports of wasps.

The figures have been released by Lichfield District Council, which is reviewing its pest control service.

Despite the fact officers were called out more than once every two days to deal with rats or wasps, complaints have fallen dramatically. But the council says it is likely demand is down due to additional fees rather than a fall in the number of pests.

CHURCHES

Ministers joined by a new family

MINISTERS in the Cannock Chase Circuit have been joined by the Rev Cleopas Sibanda from Zimbabwe who will be working with them for the next 12 months before moving on to minister to the Zimbabwean communities in Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

The Rev Cleopas, his wife Susan and their four children will be living in Rugeley, and members of the Brereton and Handsacre Methodist churches, and St Paul's Methodist/United Reformed Church are looking forward to having him lead them in worship.

FOOTBALL

McNally back in charge of Pitmen

HEDNESFORD Town have announced the return of Bernard McNally as manager at Keys Park. The former West Bromwich Albion and Shrewsbury midfielder has been appointed after the recent departure of Rob Smith to AFC Telford.

McNally was previously in charge of Hednesford in 2009. He will be joined by Chris Brindley as assistant.

A statement from the club said: "The new management team will bring much needed continuity and is felt to exhibit the best combination of skills and experience to take the club forwards."

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CHURCH IS PUT IN THE PICTURE



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Praise for hospitals despite criticism



George Adamson

‘NOTHING but good things’, ‘incredibly valued’ and doing ‘a really good job’ – civic leaders and MPs rallied round to praise The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

The leader of Cannock Chase Council has said he is ‘surprised and disappointed’ by the findings of the latest Care Quality Commission report and its demand for improvement.

Councillor George Adamson said people were full of praise for Cannock Chase Hospital since it was handed over to the Wolverhampton trust last year after the break-up of the Mid-Staffordshire

NHS Foundation Trust. The hospital in Brunswick Road received an overall ‘requires improving’ rating after three of its five core services were found lacking.

He said: “This is disappointing, and I have to say quite a surprise.

“The people I’ve spoken to have been full of praise for the services they’ve received under the new regime.

“Obviously there have been minor problems but as far as I’m aware the transition of services has gone reasonably well. A lot of work is in progress at the site on what is an old building, and this may be having a knock-on effect.”

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson said: “This is a hospital that is incredibly valued by local people.”

Wolverhampton South West MP Rob Marris said he thought the trust was doing a ‘really good job’.

However, a patient forum is demanding immediate action by the trust board.

Gordon Alcott, chairman of the Chase Patient Participation Group, said: “If services don’t improve, and sooner rather than later, patients may go elsewhere now that they have the right to choose which hospital they go to for treatment.”

Patients at risk due to nursing shortage

A SHORTAGE of nurses is ‘compromising patient safety’ and sapping staff morale at the trust in charge of Wolverhampton’s New Cross Hospital and Cannock Chase Hospital.

The Care Quality Commission rated the The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust as ‘requires improvement’ following its visit and warned it relied too much on agency nurses.

Key findings by inspectors found nurse staffing issues have had a negative effect on workers’ morale.

They also found that staffing was having a negative impact on patient safety and care, raising concerns over patients falling at Cannock Chase and night-time nurse shortages at New Cross.

Despite the call to improve, inspectors found that care in general was good.

The report states: “We found various safety issues at ward level on our inspection. Where we found that the issues needed to be escalated the trust responded extremely quickly.

“Nursing staffing was an issue with both bank and agency use increasing.

Safety

“This was having a negative effect on staff morale and had also been a contributory factor in some incidents which had resulted in harm to the patient.”

Medical care was rated as ‘requires improvement’ at Cannock Chase Hospital. The report added: “The ward’s track record on safety showed that improvements were required to protect patients from harm.

“There were many patients falling and some had sustained harm. Some poor infection control practices were seen.”

It added: “The ward was covering their own nursing staffing shortfalls on a continual basis with limited access to bank or agency cover, which was unsustainable.”

However, the trust was praised in a number of areas for ‘outstanding’ practice.

Meanwhile, staff also told inspectors they were proud to work within the trust and that their colleagues were supportive and friendly. The trust as a whole achieved good or outstanding ratings for care, except within medicine for which it required improvement.

Town council in lifesaving move



Councillor Alan Pearson with the newly installed defibrillator at Hednesford Town Council

HEDNESFORD Town Council has installed a defibrillator at its headquarters.

The lifesaving equipment – used when someone has a cardiac arrest – is now available at Pye Green Community Centre. It has been provided as councillors were concerned by reports of potentially preventable deaths.

It has been provided by West Midlands Ambulance Service and its installation and upkeep has been funded by the council, at a

cost of around £1,500. A defibrillator delivers an electrical current through the chest which aims to shock the heart back into a normal rhythm allowing it to pump again.

Once in position, the defibrillator detects the heart’s rhythm.

It will not deliver a shock unless one is needed. Anyone can use the defibrillator, and no specialist training is needed. Users should call 999 to access a code to start its use – and will be talked through what to do by the defibrillator itself.

Council chairman Councillor Alan Pearson said: “Prompt action with a defibrillator can much improve the quality of life of a survivor, as the longer the brain is starved of oxygen, the more damage may occur.

“Following a heart attack, someone’s chance of survival decreases by 23 per cent every minute.

“We’re pleased to have the peace of mind that our defibrillator is now in place and ready to help if needs be.”

HS2 work faces years of delays, say experts

CONSTRUCTION experts fear work on HS2 will start three years late – but bosses have insisted it is still on track.

In its summer industry forecast, industry body the Construction Products Association (CPA) cited ‘concerns regarding planning and financing’ as reasons why it does not think main civil engineering works will start for five years. And experts say people affected by the £50 billion rail line are also potentially causing ‘delays through appeals’.

The Government announced in June that construction of the high-speed link would start in 2017. And the hybrid bill, the legislation permitting HS2 to go ahead, is on course to be signed off with Royal Assent by the end of 2016.

The CPA, a group that represents 30,000 companies across product manufacturing, said work is unlikely to begin until 2020. CPA’s economics director Dr Noble Francis said: “When you look at major rail infrastructure, there is usually a significant period of time before projects get off the ground.”

Campaigners fighting HS2 have hailed Dr Francis’s views as the latest evidence that it should be scrapped.

Stop HS2 campaign manager Joe Rukin said: “There have been concerns since the start that HS2 would be late and over budget, but despite the fact it is already late and over budget, HS2 Ltd always dismiss anyone who criticises their competence.” However, HS2 Ltd spokesman Richard Pain said: “We remain confident that the main construction of HS2 will start in 2017.”

Man accused of killing remanded

A CANNOCK man accused of unlawfully killing Carl Tindall in Stafford has been further remanded in custody by a judge.

Jamie Sleigh, aged 35, of St Johns Road, who is charged with manslaughter, made a brief appearance via video link before Stafford Crown Court for a preliminary hearing.

Mr Tindall, 35, of Brocton, Stafford, was taken to hospital after being found lying in Cull Avenue, Stafford, by passers-by shortly after 10pm on August 22.

He died in hospital the following Monday.

The case was adjourned for the prosecution to serve papers on the defence.

Sleigh will next appear before the crown court on November 20 to enter a plea to the charge.

Decision on outlet village next week

A DECISION on plans to build a designer outlet village in Cannock is due to be made on Wednesday. The Mill Green Outlet Village scheme includes shops and a cinema. If paperwork is ready, Cannock Chase Council’s planning committee will discuss the plans on that day.

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Speaker to tell story of docks

TONY Condor, a former curator of the Gloucester Waterways Museum, will be the speaker at the next meeting of the Lichfield branch of the Inland Waterways Association.

Gloucester's dock area, near the city centre, is a popular tourist attraction, and Tony will give an illustrated talk on its history.

The meeting on Wednesday is at the Martin Heath Hall, in Christchurch Lane, Lichfield, at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Admission is free, and non-members will be very welcome.

Firm makes debut at industry event

A CANNOCK-BASED company is making its first appearance at one of the world's biggest gas and oil exploration and production events.

Materials handling specialist Briggs Equipment is bringing its expertise in the oil and gas sector to SPE Offshore Europe, which is running at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre until tomorrow.

Briggs is the national distributor of Hyster and Yale Europe Materials Handling equipment and works with both manufacturers to modify forklift trucks to meet key requirements.

Rhyme time for children's group

A BABY and toddler group in Hednesford has chosen rhymes as the theme for September.

Little Friends will be meeting at the Museum of Cannock Chase on September 18 and visitors are invited along to sing and sign their favourite rhymes.

There is no need to book and places are £3 per child including a snack for baby and a hot drink for parents.

For more information about the event, call 01543 877666.

Keeping the peace a theme of display

CRIME, punishment and keeping the peace are the main themes of a display being staged in Rugeley this weekend by a local history group.

The Landor Society will be staging the 'Law and Order' event at St Augustine's Church Hall on Saturday from 10am.

It will cover the period from Magna Carta to the present day.

Copies of John Godwin's 'Murder of Christina Collins on the Trent & Mersey Canal' will also be on sale.

Race entries to open

ENTRIES for the 2016 Stafford Half Marathon will open on November 3 at midday. The street race will take place on Sunday, March 20 and is open to men and women aged over 17-years-old. More details of how to enter will be available from the website www.staffordbc.gov.uk/halfmarathon

Fly-tipping up by third – but only a few caught

FLY-TIPPING has risen by almost a third in Staffordshire with thousands of incidents being reported – but just a handful of people prosecuted.

In Cannock Chase, there were 416 reports in 2014-15 – up from 318 three years before. And the resulting cost to taxpayers rose from £18,091 in 2012-13 to £23,846 in 2014-15.

But Cannock Chase Council prosecuted just one person last year, and none in the two previous years.

Similarly, in Stafford the number of reports went from 353 in 2012-13 to 443 in 2014-15, with £28,000 spent last year. And there were two prosecutions in 2014-15, one the year before, and five in 2012-13.

Cannock Chase Council leader George Adamson described the figures as disheartening but said finding the culprits was difficult. "A lot of companies are now fly-tipping rather than pay Biffa to do it for them," he said.

"We use CCTV to try and catch those responsible and work closely with the police but the problem is that fly-tipping tends to occur in the more remote parts of the district and it only takes a matter of seconds to dump rubbish and drive off.

"False number plates are often used so, although we pass registration numbers to the police, the plates are usually removed immediately after and the culprits can't be traced."

Cannock Chase Council pays members of the public a £100 reward for successful fly-tipping tip-offs.

Councillor Adamson said: "We do appeal to the public to help us in this."

Ironman makes a £1m impact

MORE than £1 million was spent by spectators and competitors during this year's Ironman competition in Staffordshire.

The inaugural one-day event in June saw 2,500 entrants tackle a 1.2-mile swim at Chasewater, a 56-mile bike ride and a 13.1-mile run around Shugborough. The triathlon was so successful that places for the event next year sold out in one day.

The county council's economy boss Mark Winnington said more than £1m was spent during the event. "The Ironman event was a resounding success and has had a positive impact on Staffordshire, not just economically but also enhancing its reputation as a place to visit and in encouraging healthy lifestyles," he said.

Eyes down for a prize evening

A PRIZE bingo evening will be held tomorrow at 7pm for a 7.30 start at Huntington Community Centre.

Admission is free, and there is a raffle and refreshments organised by St Thomas Church, Huntington.

Bishop diagnosed with Parkinson's



The Rt Rev Jonathan Gledhill

THE retiring Bishop of Lichfield has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. The Rt Rev Jonathan Gledhill confirmed he was in the early stages of the progressive condition, which affects the nervous system.

This month the 66-year-old will step down from the Dioceses of Lichfield, where he has been bishop for 12 years. He said: "So far it hasn't prevented from me doing most of what I need to do and I'm very grateful to God for enabling me to continue until my retirement date."

Bishop Jonathan was educated at

Keele University and worked for 20 years of ministry in Kent, where he now plans to retire with wife Jane to be closer to friends and family.

He was installed as the Bishop of Southampton in 1996 and then at the invitation of then prime minister Tony Blair became the 98th Bishop of Lichfield in November 2003.

The diocese serves more than two million people in Staffordshire, Shropshire and the Black Country.

Bishop Jonathan announced his retirement at a meeting of the College of Canons at Lichfield Cathedral on

St Chad's Day in March. Following confirmation of his diagnosis the Very Rev Adrian Dorber, Dean of Lichfield, said: "Bishop Jonathan has been very candid about his illness and on behalf of all the cathedral community and all who know him in the Lichfield diocese, I want to express our sympathy and concern for him."

"Our bishop has been a very conscientious and generous pastor."

Bishop Jonathan's final act in his current role will be to hand over his pastoral staff at Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday, September 26.

Council calls in bailiffs 3,163 times during year

CANNOCK Chase Council instructed bailiffs 3,163 times to collect debts owed by individuals and businesses during 2014-15.

The news follows research by the Money Advice Trust, the charity that runs National Debtline.

Experts says the figure, revealed by the council in response to a Freedom of Information request, shows that more needs to be done to help those in financial difficulty at an earlier stage.

The research was conducted as part of National Debtline's new Stop The Knock campaign and follows the release of official figures showing that Cannock Chase Council ended the 2014-15 year with £6.4 million in unpaid council tax arrears. In total, councils in England and Wales instructed bailiffs 2.1 million times for debts including council tax, parking, business rates and other arrears – an increase of 16 per cent on two years ago when the Money Advice Trust last researched the issue.

The findings rank Cannock Chase at 108 out of 326 for local authority bailiff use in England and Wales, relative to size of authority.

Focus

The 3,163 bailiff referrals made by the council in 2014-15 represents an increase of 25 per cent on two years ago, when the council reported 2,530 referrals in the 2012 calendar year.

The charity is calling for bailiffs, now known legally as enforcement agents, to be used only as a last resort, with a greater focus on preventative work and early detection and intervention where residents and businesses fall behind.

Last year National Debtline provided free, independent advice to 153 residents in the Cannock Chase area, and says it wants to help many more who are struggling financially. The charity has written to the leader of the council with details of its latest research on bailiff use, and to call for improvements to debt collection practices to make sure people who are struggling get the free advice they need.

Joanna Elson OBE, chief executive of the Money Advice Trust, said: "I would urge anyone in Cannock Chase who is struggling to cope with council tax arrears, or any other type of debt, to seek free advice from National Debtline as soon as possible."

Visit www.nationaldebtline.org or call 0800 808 4000.



Focused on charities – Penkriddle marathon runner Mark Vaz crosses the finish line at the Black Country Living Museum

Special museum welcome for Mark

A PENKRIDGE runner completing 90 marathons in 90 days received a warm welcome when he crossed the finish line at a West Midlands tourist attraction.

Mark Vaz has now tackled 53 marathons. He is running for Tommy's Charity, which offers support to families who have suffered stillbirths and Katharine House Hospice in Stafford.

He is aiming to raise £90,000. The 32-year-old decided to take on the 90-marathon challenge as his wife Tammy has suffered seven miscarriages since 2007.

Visitors at the Black Country Living Museum roared him on down the final straight through the attraction's heritage village.

He said after crossing the finish line: "This might sound really strange – it's nice to have the record but the charities are the main focus. Records come second." Mark has to fit in all his marathons around his job as a window cleaner.

To support Mark, visit www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/9090 or his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/90-marathons-in-90-days

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



SHOCK, horror. Some contestants in a TV talent show are alleged to be not fresh-faced amateurs at all but professional musicians. Meanwhile, far away in a wood, a bear squats down . . .

THIS country gets more like the United States every day. Americans spend much time and energy agonising over what the Founding Fathers meant when they drafted the Constitution back in 1787. Now, we EU states are trying to remember what the Common Market rules of the 1950s really meant when they referred to the “free movement of persons, services, goods and capital.” Are the persons just persons? Are they persons looking for work? Or as Home Secretary Theresa May insists this week, should free movement be restricted to persons with definite jobs to go to? I suspect May is on to a loser, and knows it. Anyone who remembers the days of grim-faced immigration officers stamping English passports in French trains knows that the freedom of EU citizens to travel freely within the EU is the best thing about it. It worked perfectly well when the European Economic Community was a small cluster of affluent nations. Today’s blame lies with the idiots who are turning it into a massive superstate from the Atlantic to the Urals. Coming soon, Albania.

HORIZON (BBC4) looked at what the boffins call synthetic biology and critics call playing God. When we start tinkering with DNA and swapping molecules between species, you have to believe there are sufficient safeguards to prevent global disaster. That belief is not made any easier by the late, great Terry Pratchett’s timely warning that some humans, given the chance, would do literally anything. He said: “If you put a large switch in



some cave somewhere, with a sign on it saying ‘End Of The World Switch – Do Not Touch,’ the paint wouldn’t even have time to dry.”

WHY is it that so many migrants heading across Europe from North Africa are young men of military age? I don’t believe this is some evil Islamist super-plot to flood our continent with jihadi terrorists. What I am suggesting is that when young men flee from a war zone, there’s a good chance they have been involved, willingly or not, in the war. It might be wise to establish exactly what they have been doing for the past couple of years. If that is wickedly cynical then I am a wicked cynic.

MEANWHILE Amnesty International’s deputy director in Europe, Gauri van Gulik, declares that the scandal of refugees dying en route is “a tragic indictment of Europe’s failures to provide alternative routes.” Really? Is it not an indictment of Syrians, Somalis, Eritreans and Libyans becoming the Nazis of the 21st century?

Don’t miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Schools to join in lifesaving drive

SCHOOLS in Staffordshire are being urged by St John Ambulance to help build a generation of young lifesavers, as it kicks off a First Aid Relay across the West Midlands region.

The charity’s Lets Teach A Generation First Aid Relay will see trainers from St John Ambulance deliver lifesaving first aid training in schools.

Pupils will then have two weeks to pass the first aid baton by raising

enough funds for a neighbouring school to receive the same training.

The campaign starts this month and will run until next July.

The charity is gearing up to train thousands of pupils across the region, with dozens of schools already registering their interest to take part.

Nick Pitt, regional schools training co-ordinator for St John Ambulance in the West Midlands, said: “This is

such an exciting initiative and is the first time we will have launched anything like this.

“Schools can raise money in any way they choose – this is all about joining together by ‘paying it forward’ for another school to benefit from potentially lifesaving training.”

The initiative follows research undertaken by St John Ambulance which showed nearly 58 per cent of

children in the West Midlands region have no lifesaving knowledge at all, leaving them without the skills to deal with basic emergency situations. The charity’s research also found that 86 per cent of parents think first aid should be included in the national curriculum.

To take part in the First Aid Relay, contact 0121 237 3879 or email west-mids-training@sja.org.uk

Bills alert on heating as winter approaches

THE 12,000 households in Staffordshire on oil heating could be missing out on savings of almost £200 a year by not upgrading the old, inefficient boilers installed in their homes, according to the latest industry data.

An estimated two thirds of rural homes in Staffordshire could reduce their annual fuel bills by around 20 per cent, particularly over the next few months when the cold weather kicks in, by upgrading to a modern condensing boiler, says OFTEC, the UK trade body for oil heating.

It is calling on the Government to introduce a boiler scrappage scheme to enable more people to upgrade to a modern, condensing boiler and reduce their fuel bills as well as cut CO2 emissions.

Households in the county are already benefiting from a fall in oil prices with figures showing the annual cost of heating a typical three-bedroom home with a condensing oil boiler is now £886.

The main alternatives of LPG and electricity are currently £701 and £714 per annum more expensive respectively than oil.

Malcolm Farrow, from OFTEC, said: “The huge fall in the price of oil, which has more than halved in the last two years and is expected to remain low, is fantastic news for people in Staffordshire who rely on oil heating. However, two thirds of these homes are missing out on further significant savings as they are using old, inefficient boilers.

Visit www.oilsave.org.uk for details.

Care home plan for disused site

A RESIDENTIAL care home for adults with learning disabilities and autism could open in a building that has stood derelict for a year and become a target for vandals.

Plans to convert the former Council Voluntary Service building in Arthur Street, Chadsmoor, into a nine-bedroom facility have been submitted to Cannock Chase Council. If approved, two single-storey residential units would also be constructed by Stafford-based Linfield Care.

The proposals also include a garden for residents, who would be aged between 18 and 65. The care home would be for both men and women and provide supported living with staff on site 24 hours a day.

A decision on the application is expected to be made next month.

Coffee morning in aid of Macmillan

A CHARITY coffee morning is to be held at a Rugeley funeral parlour.

The fundraising event in aid of Macmillan is at Phillipp Emery Funeral Directors in Bow Street on Friday, September 25 at 10am. Everyone is welcome. Call 01889 582274.

Residents consider a £500,000 bid for pub

By Carl Jackson

RESIDENTS in Cannock considering buying a pub after winning the fight to stop it being knocked down.

More than 200 people opposed the plan by Punch Taverns to demolish the Ascot Tavern in Longford Road and replace it with a convenience store.

In the wake of the proposal being refused by Cannock Chase District Council, the group now want to secure its future. They expect to need about £500,000.

Landlady Dawn Holden, who is part of the campaign, said: “I took it on three and a half years ago with my mum and it was in very bad disrepair.

“The pub has been up for sale for quite a long time – that’s why we are tenants at will. When we took it on it was worth £450,000 so that’s what we expect it will cost.

“We have always been under the impression we would get an opportunity to purchase it.

Offer

“We have discussed it with people in the community and we are now looking at buying the pub ourselves.

“We already know of several businesses that would put a large offer in, and the rest of the money would be raised from the residents.

“But we have got to wait and see what Punch do now – they have got the upper hand.”

The council’s planning committee unanimously rejected the plans.

In its application documents Punch Taverns said it was having to heavily subsidise the pub’s continued operation and claimed the business was no longer viable because it was not making enough profit.

But the committee said the plans would ‘overdevelop’ the site, a store would be too overbearing on neighbouring properties, and delivery lorries would cause traffic problems.

Following the planning decision, a Punch Taverns spokeswoman said: “We are currently considering our position.”

A5 closed as tanker overturns at island



The scene after a tanker overturned on the A460 near the junction with Voyager Drive, in Bridgtown

A TANKER carrying chemicals overturned on a busy roundabout in Cannock, forcing the closure of a stretch of the A5 and causing long delays for motorists.

Emergency services were called to Churchbridge interchange, near junction seven of the M6 Toll, at 10.20am on Wednesday last week.

A total of 17 firefighters and three fire officers attended the scene, said Martin Elliott, spokesman for Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

He said the driver had managed to flee the vehicle unharmed by the time crews arrived.

He added: “A foam blanket was put around the fully loaded tanker as a precautionary measure as they were not sure what chemical it may have been carrying. A

specialist was called out to identify the chemical. It was not believed to be life-threatening.”

Police spokesman Deana Pritchard said the incident had caused congestion while the vehicle was recovered.

Shawn Stevens was at the scene working on the interior of Burger King, at the nearby Gateway retail park, as the drama unfolded. He said: “It must have just tipped over.”

Michelle Dewhurst, of Cannock, said the incident caused traffic chaos. She added: “Personally, I think the roundabout has a really bad layout. The bends are too tight and I don’t think the signs are quite right.

“A lot of people find themselves in the wrong lane. There’s been quite a few accidents recently.”

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Two more schools in speeding campaign

TWO more schools in the Cannock Chase district have joined the 20 is Plenty campaign.

St Peter's Primary, Hednesford and Hazelslade Primary, Cannock are among 17 schools in the county who are new to the scheme. Speed Indication Devices (SIDs) display the speed of each vehicle as it passes, with the aim of urging drivers to slow down.

The scheme, run by Staffordshire County Council, is in operation when pupils are arriving in the morning and leaving in the afternoon.

Councillor Mark Deaville, cabinet support member for highways and transport, said the scheme had been a real success in encouraging drivers to slow down when outside schools.

"Keeping roads and schoolchildren safe remains our top priority, and our roads continue to be amongst the safest in the country," he added.

"This is one of many initiatives we operate that targets drivers reminding them not to put pupils' lives at risk by driving above 20 miles an hour."

The scheme was launched in 2010 and has been rolled out to more than 200 schools in the county.

Other schools joining up this week include Lichfield Cathedral School; Highfields Primary School, Lichfield; and Westfield Primary, Wombourne.

Council to vote on housing bid

PLANNING applications received by Lichfield District Council include:

95 High Street, Chasetown - demolition of existing commercial buildings and erection of seven three-bedroom dwellings and associated works.

Court Bank, Rugeley Road, Burntwood - extension, conversion of garages and new pitched roof to form one-bedroom granny annex and home entertainment centre.

Laurel Cottage, Rugeley Road, Burntwood - installation of dormers front and rear and canopy to entrance.

8 St James Close, London - alterations and extensions including raising ridge height to form kitchen, garage bedrooms and en suites.

Comments must be received by September 22.

3,000 homes are to be improved

MORE than 3,000 council-owned homes across Cannock are to receive improvements by next spring.

Kitchens and bathrooms will be re-vamped, and improvements made to central heating and double glazing.

Grants on offer for Chase projects



Cannock Chase - funding available

A POT of money is available for community groups to develop projects that focus on the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The Cannock Chase AONB Partnership has a 'small amount' of money to fund projects up to £500.

Commenting on the grant scheme, Emma Beaman, assistant AONB officer, said: "This funding is a really valuable resource for voluntary groups."

"Examples of projects that could be awarded a grant include creating

bird feeding stations, art activities such as wildlife sculptures, tools for volunteers, habitat creation, or way markers.

"We hope plenty of groups will apply for funding and we look forward to helping projects that will boost Cannock Chase AONB."

Beauty

The deadline to apply for a grant is Friday, October 2.

Applications will be assessed against criteria that include whether projects conserve or enhance the nat-

ural beauty of Cannock Chase AONB sites, whether they are sustainable developments, if they involve local communities, and other factors.

Small projects will be funded up to £500 and larger projects will be funded up to £1,000.

An application form and the full criteria are available on request from the Cannock Chase AONB Unit.

Anyone who wishes to find out more, or who would like to request an application form, can call Emma Beaman on 01785 619185 or email cannockchase@staffordshire.gov.uk

One in five pupils fail tests at the age of 11

ONE in five children in Staffordshire are failing to reach the expected standards in reading, writing and mathematics by the time they leave primary school.

The provisional results of this year's national curriculum tests - known as Sats - show 80 per cent of pupils achieved at least a level 4 in the 'three Rs'.

Girls fared better than boys who are further behind with only 77 per cent reaching the standard expected of the age group.

The figures show that 82 per cent of girls got at least a level 4 in all three subjects. Pupils are expected to gain at least a level 4 standard in the three Key Stage 2 tests which they take in Year 6 when they are usually, aged 11.

Reading was the strongest subject for pupils in Staffordshire with 89 per cent achieving the expected level or higher. This compared with 87 per cent for mathematics and writing.

Staffordshire's education boss Councillor Ben Adams said improvements had been made in all three subject areas since 2014.

Last year, with writing, reading and maths combined, 77 per cent of pupils achieved at least the expected level in all three subjects.

Support

This year's overall figure of 80 per cent is on par with the national average.

Councillor Adams said: "Working with schools, and along with our school improvement partner EnTrust, we have put in a lot of support to help raise standards."

"We provide tailored support across a wide range of subjects including English and maths, along with support on assessment and monitoring, and improving teaching and learning."

"We also encourage schools to form partnerships with others to ensure they are making the most of local expertise and experience."

"These results show that Staffordshire schools are definitely moving in the right direction," Councillor Adams added.

The Key Stage 2 assessments were taken in May by almost 550,000 pupils across the country. Verified figures will be published later in the year.

It is the last time the format will be used to assess performance at the end of primary school, as from summer 2016 pupils will be assessed against a higher standard and given a scaled score where 100 will represent the expected benchmark.

Team is relay excited for race



Cameron Homes marketing manager Danielle Goff-Wood with rival staff Tom Flannery and Steve Malkin

ROW, row, row your coracle boat... that will be the plan for staff at a building company when they take part a charity race tomorrow.

The team from Cameron Homes in Chasetown and its sister company Galliers Homes are among those in the Macmillan World Championship Coracle Relay.

A total of around 40 teams are expected to compete for the title when the event takes place in Shrewsbury for its seventh year.

The crews of four will paddle in coracles across the River Severn and back, watched by spectators. Marketing manager Danielle Goff-Wood said the Cameron team were relishing the challenge.

She said: "We are really looking forward to the competition - and there will be some real rivalry between Cameron and Galliers, who are based in Shrewsbury, with both definitely aiming to be crowned as world champions. As a

firm Cameron like to get involved local events and activities and this is an ideal opportunity for us to raise funds for such a good cause."

It is hoped that more than £15,000 will be collected for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Helen Knight, regional fundraising manager for Macmillan, said: "We are looking forward to a fantastic day on the river."

Donate at www.justgiving.com/teamcameronhomes

NEWS IN BRIEF

Plans for gipsy plots unveiled

THREE gipsy pitches will be created in Gentleshaw, under new plans.

Proposals have been submitted to Lichfield District Council to demolish three existing buildings in Shaw Lane to make way for the plots.

The application also seeks permission for a toilet block, a three-bedroom woodlands lodge and the relocation of a mobile home on the land.

A new access road would also have to be created.

The authority's planning committee is set to make a decision on the plans some time this month.

Band to play their part in fundraiser

THE Cannock Citadel Salvation Army Band is to perform in a concert to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Hosted by Stafford Rotary Club, the show is in aid of Katharine House Hospice and HomeStart Charity. It will take place at St Mary's Church, Stafford, on Saturday at 7.30pm.

The evening will also feature the Military Wives Choir from MOD Stafford. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children and are available from Mews Music in St Mary's Place opposite St Mary's Church.

Playgroup appeal for new members

A PLAYGROUP for grandparents and toddlers in Huntington is looking for new members.

Huntington Grandparents and Toddler Group meet every Thursday during term time from 9.30 to 11.30am.

The group offers play activities for toddlers, both inside and outdoors.

For details call Ann on 07765 408961, email huntingtonparentsgp@gmail.com or visit the group at Littleton Green Community School, in Colliers Way. Sessions start today.

Murder mystery will be next production

WHITTINGTON Players are to present 'Murder is Served' - described as Agatha Christie meets Fawlty Towers - next month.

The murder mystery by Jo West will be performed at Whittington Village Hall on October 16 and 17 at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm.

The play features 'excitement, intrigue and foul play'.

Tickets are £10 including supper and are available on 01543 490355 or at www.whittingtonplayers.co.uk

Outing to Ashbourne

CHASE & District Group Ramblers will be undertaking a 10-mile moderate/strenuous walk at Ashbourne on Sunday. Meet at Hednesford railway station car park, in Anglesey Street, for a prompt 9am departure. Walk leader Barry on 01543 684254 has more details about the outing.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Nation is hooked on buy now, pay later

NOT that I am suggesting that Britain as a nation is still hooked on debt, borrowing when we should be saving, still suffering from a "buy now, pay later" culture. But I saw the following deal in a well-known secondhand goods retailer on a child's descant recorder: Deposit £0.70; 12 x weekly repayments £0.23; total to pay £3.50.

If we are teaching children to buy even the cheapest products on the never-never, can we really be surprised if they grow up unable to manage their finances?

PHWEH. Glad they've sorted that one out. After five months of bitter wrangles, the Valhalla fetish club in Dudley has finally been given the go-ahead.

The owners say we shouldn't jump to conclusions, that events like the Foot Fetish Feast are just good clean innocent fun. They say there will be no sexual activities taking place, just role play and fetish, whatever that means. A bit like Dungeons and Dragons I guess, with a bit of light spanking thrown in to add a dash of colour.

Perhaps I've led a sheltered life, but I never knew this sort of thing really went on in the Black Country. I always assumed Foot Fetish Feasts were an activity strictly reserved for the trendier parts of the capital. They don't call it swingin' London for nothing.

However, the burning question which nobody appears to have explained is whether the club has its own changing room, or whether the fetish fans will be getting out of their cars in their, ahem, finery? Will shoppers and visitors to the leisure centre see the role-play lovers trudging up the road in their exotic leather and rubber gear as they head to this metropolis of masochism? That would be a sight to behold.

Will the equipment be provided in-house, or will it be a case of "bring-a-bottle - and half a yard of chain and cat o' nine tails while you're about it"? Perhaps White Van Man will reverse up to the delivery bay to unload the latest consignment of chainmail and horsehair whips.

By sheer coincidence, the club is just across the road from the Freemason's lodge. Maybe it's just me, but don't you think there could be some very interesting misunderstandings if the two groups mistake each other for their own in the street?

WELL fancy that. A new report says that due to the surging number of young people going to university, there has been a big increase in the number of graduates ending up in routine jobs which do not require a degree. Who would have thought it?

Time was when a law degree was the step to becoming a barrister. These days you are as likely to end up as a barista.



Roy Swinbourne, Malcolm Finlayson, Joy, and Bert Williams



The pop star sisters seen in 1963 at the Savoy Bowl in Blackpool



Billy Wright, Joy Beverley and their newborn daughter

Sister who brought Joy to all she knew

They were the Posh and Becks of their time. **LISA WRIGHT** looks back at Joy Beverley's life with Wolves' Billy Wright

"THEY loved each other so much and it's a comfort to think she is with dad now."

These are the words of Vicky Wright, who paid a heartfelt tribute to her mother Joy Beverley - the widow of Wolves legend Billy Wright - who died, last week, aged 91.

Joy, one third of the 1950s pop group The Beverley Sisters, passed away last Monday morning. Her family said she had suffered a stroke the week previously.

Since her death there have been several tributes made, including from Wolves' chief executive Jez Moxey, who said: "She brought joy and happiness to many people and was part of the fabric of our club for so many years."

Flags at Molineux were flown at half-mast as a sign of respect following the news.

Vicky, 56, who herself had a pop career with The Little Foxes and is the partner of Bobby Davro, said her parents met when Joy and her sisters were staying in Wolverhampton during a performance at the Grand Theatre.

Whirlwind

They were introduced and it was love at first sight. "I remember them saying it was like a Disney film when they saw each other," says Vicky. After a whirlwind three-month relationship with the England captain, London-born Joy tied the knot with Billy in July 1958 at Poole Register Office. Their marriage was the first celebrity/footballer wedding.

And growing up, Vicky, who is herself a mother to Kelly, 21, remembers the attention her star parents used to get.

"They were the first Posh and Becks but it was so different then," she recalls. "I didn't realise that dad was a bit of a pin-up, he was a little bit of a hero. It was the first time a footballer had fallen in love with a pop star. It's so



Babs, Joy and Teddie Beverley holding their MBEs at Buckingham Palace in 2006

bizarre because to us they were mum and dad and they were wonderful."

Vicky, who said her father received his 100th England cap just days after she was born in April 1959, also remembers holidaying as children and the family being stopped for autographs. But most of all she recalls the love and warmth from the family home in Hertfordshire.

"They were just there for us, we got so much love, it was a happy environment and I learned so much from both of them. We used to go to Italy for our summer holidays and there's very happy memories of those holidays and playing with dad. He taught me so much about being a good human being."

And Vicky said her mother - who was known as 'the middle one' of The Beverley Sisters and had hits with Sisters and Little Drummer Boy - was "the most magnificent woman, talented

and the most wonderful voice and the most wonderful artist on stage."

She adds: "They had their own TV series on the BBC and headlined at the Palladium. They were kind of retired when we were born and they semi-retired and didn't do the big stuff because they wanted to be at home."

However, Vicky does remember travelling with the family during the summer holidays.

"It was a different childhood," she admits. "But to us it was normal". Of The Beverley Sisters trio - which included Teddie and Babs - Joy was the eldest. Her sisters were twins, born in 1927. Born in Bethnal Green, the girls seemed destined to have a career in music. Their parents were George and Victoria Beverley, who performed as a music-hall duo.

During the Second World War, the sisters landed a campaign for Ovaltine to star as 'Bonnie Babies' in their adverts.



A typically upbeat performance from the trio

Their status as celebrities blossomed and they went on to land their own TV show, Three Little Girls In View, which later was renamed as Those Beverley Sisters.

Columbia Records signed them in 1951, and their contract led to them becoming the highest paid female act of their time. They appeared in the 2002 Guinness Book of Records, performed for the Queen and were later given MBEs for services to music.

Joy and Shropshire-born Billy were married for 36 years until Billy died of cancer in September 1994. They had three children, Vince, 67, Vicky and Babette, 50, and three granddaughters and one grandson.

"They loved each other so much and it's a comfort to think she is with dad now," adds Vicky. "I know Wolverhampton loved mum and dad. The letters we got when dad died it was just astonishing."

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Dogged friendship has helped 500 pets



Rugeley Welfare For Dogs founders Ruth Dewis and Pauline Roberts celebrate 10 years with Scoobie and Sam

TWO friends who work together at bathroom firm Armitage Shanks launched their own dog charity and are still going 10 years on.

Pauline Roberts and Ruth Dewis were chatting over a cup of tea at the Rugeley factory in 2005 when they came up with the idea.

In a decade, Rugeley Welfare For Dogs has provided an invaluable service helping to rehome more than 500 pets.

At times the charity has had up to 20 dogs on its books and they rehome up to 60 dogs a year.

Ms Roberts, from Trent View Close, said: "We don't work like a kennel, basically we work from home and if someone rings us up asking if we can rehome a dog, which can be for all sorts of reasons, for instance if a couple is getting divorced, then we look around and try to find that dog a new family."

Ms Dewis, who lives in Old Road in Armitage, said: "After homing the dogs we keep in touch with the owners and help them out in any way we can, we are always at the end of the phone."

Quit smoking – together

SMOKERS are being urged to quit by joining with friends and family as part of the Stoptober campaign.

Latest figures show 16 per cent of Staffordshire adults smoke.

Public Health England is urging residents to sign up together for the 28-day mass attempt to quit, as research shows people are more likely to succeed if a friend or family member stops as well.

Last year, almost 3,000 people in Staffordshire signed up for the challenge – the highest number in the West Midlands region.

Alan White, Staffordshire County Council's health chief, said: "The long-term, chronic impact of smoking on people's health and quality of life is well documented."

"But smoking also costs society too – not just through the effect of people seeing their loved ones suffer in later life, but in terms of the enormous

costs to the NHS for smoking-related healthcare.

"We know kicking the habit can be very difficult, but we would encourage everyone thinking of quitting to give it a go by signing up for Stoptober with a friend this year."

Staffordshire residents looking to give up smoking can also get help from the county's new one-stop advice service, The Healthy Staffordshire Hub, by calling 0300 111 8006.

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£897 from collection

ON behalf of the Burntwood, Cannock and Lichfield branch of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association I would like to say thank you to staff for their co-operation and all the people who so kindly donated to our fundraising collection held at Asda, Cannock, on August 22 and 23.

The total amount raised was £897.70.

If anyone is interested in helping GDBA fundraising please contact Pat on 01543 683937.

PAT WILLIAMS
Collections secretary

Tales wanted for reunion

A REUNION is to be held for all ex-Electric Construction Company employees on Tuesday, October 27 at the ECC Sports & Social Club, in Showell Road, Bushbury, from 7.30pm. It will be an informal gathering.

Dress optional, tall tales obligatory. Any questions please call 01785 840047.

P TETLOW
Stafford

Beware the patron saint of lost causes

I DO not know what offence in the eyes of Kevin Wilcox I have committed, but I would like to put a few facts straight ("Parties represent economic interests", Letters, August 27).

Mr Wilcox insinuated that I was a traitor for abandoning the Labour party if that old socialist relic Jeremy Corbyn is elected leader, and that I had somehow become a Conservative.

Let me inform Mr Wilcox that I have

never voted Conservative in my life, and I do not intend to start now.

With my family background, it would be beyond the pale for me to ever consider voting for the Conservatives, as the ghosts of my long dead Welsh relatives might have something to say about that. For the best part of 30 years, I was a member of the Labour party for my sins – through bad times and good. What finally made up my

mind to leave the party in 2012 was the sheer uselessness of Ed Miliband.

And now Labour is in grave danger of electing the ultimate patron saint of lost causes in Jeremy Corbyn. For a long time the Conservatives were known as the stupid party. With his imminent election, I fear that the Labour party has picked up that mantle.

STEVEN GAVRILOVIC
Cannock

We want to hear about poor care

CARERS UK is working with the health and care regulator, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), to gather experiences of poor quality care.

While the CQC doesn't settle individual complaints, they will take the information you give, which can be anonymous, and deliver it to their inspection teams.

This helps them decide when, where and what to inspect, and enables immediate action to be taken.

From recent work carried out by Carers UK and CQC, 69 per cent of the feedback provided by carers was used in CQC inspections; in one in five cases, more urgent action was taken, for example an inspection was brought forward.

Please help us improve care quality. Tell us about your experiences at www.cqc.org.uk/share-your-experience-finder or find out more at www.carersuk.org/cqc.

HELENA HERKLOTS
Carers UK

Third party has had part in pits demise

FROM time to time readers' views will appear on the letters page regarding the 1984 miners' strike with some blaming Arthur Scargill for the demise of the coal industry while others believe it was all the fault of Margaret Thatcher.

But in my opinion there is a third party which has done more damage to the mining communities than those two put together, namely the environmentalists.

They have lobbied and brainwashed successive governments into closing all of the deep mine pits in the UK without much thought in to what viable source of power could replace coal. I don't advocate thick black smoke belching out of the power stations causing health issues but we as a country should be investing in clean coal technology.

T HILL
Cannock

Rethink needed over this beautiful asset

I FOUND the lead article entitled "£1.9m fund to protect the Chase" after the disclosure to build 8,000 new homes in the coming years baffling (Chronicle, August 6).

I would imagine everyone would want to protect such a valuable asset for all. However, I would argue against spending £1.4 million on creating two full-time posts – a project manager and a visitor engagement officer.

We already have enough staff to oversee Cannock Chase – a joint committee of 17, an advisory partnership of 24, an office working group of seven and the Cannock Chase AONB unit of three.

Please have a rethink to protect this beautiful asset.
MR A D ALLPORT
Huntington

Planet's resources won't last forever

WE live on a planet with finite resources, energy resources that cannot be allowed to be plundered by the greedy profiteering of corporate giants.

Unfortunately we are in a One Party State – New Labour indistinguishable from the Tories. In a civilised society, health, education, public transport, energy supplies and sanitation are rights, not privileges.

Are these extreme left-wing ideas? Let's take some samples of 'moderate' right-wing ideology: supporting Trident, capable of annihilating millions of civilians, privatising the NHS, ensuring healthcare only for the rich, and remaining in Nato, a US-led organisation whose disastrous foreign policy has destabilised the Middle East.

Then there's Jeremy Corbyn, who advocates so-called extreme left-wing views. After all, he must be mad, he rides a bicycle! But isn't the abuse of the motor car a prime example of the ecological rape of the planet? So, on your bike, New Labour, and make way for Corbyn's True Labour.

HAYDN GREENWAY
Cannock

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES	EMAIL cannock.chron@ expressandstar.co.uk
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Innocent people are dying

IT seems L Cooper got one thing right – our government has failed miserably to deal with the migrant crisis ("It's one problem too many for politicians", Letters, August 27).

Result: innocent people are dying in their attempts to escape war and grinding poverty. How can anyone suggest these people don't deserve our help?

When will we stop labelling them illegals or terrorists and see them for what they are – ordinary people, forced to flee circumstances we can only begin to imagine?

MRS CLARE SHOLL
Burntwood

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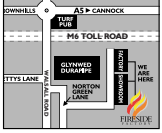
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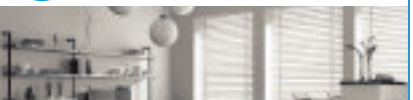
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Find a new focus by joining club

Cannock Photo Society

THERE is an old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. A photograph can communicate a feeling or tell a story without the usual language barriers of the written or spoken word.

And in this fast paced, electronic world, what better way to preserve those special moments?

Cannock Photographic Society is a group of amateur photographers who explore this fascinating subject. They meet weekly, from September to May to share their love of photography and develop their skills through workshops, lectures and taking part in competitions.

The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) runs national competitions for both printed and digital images. In the PAGB Digital Image finals held at Warwick University in July this year, Cannock gained sixth place – out of 1,000 UK clubs. The result means they go straight into next year's finals.

There is a variety of lectures and events in store including a lecture on hidden gems of the Midlands countryside, printing in monochrome, and more competitions such as the PAGB Print Finals in October.

If you are interested in photography, whether a beginner or more experienced, come along and join us.

Cannock Photographic Society meet on Thursdays, from 8pm at Mill Street Methodist Church, Cannock. Visit <http://www.cannockps.co.uk>

Work party leaves festival site V clean



Cannock Soroptimists collect goods left behind at the V Festival, Weston Park

FOR the last few years a collection of tents, chairs, beds, sleeping bags, un-opened food and such-like has been organised by Rotary International at Weston Park in the two days following the V Festival.

This year, as before, Soroptimist International of Cannock & District was involved.

So much is left behind that, if it can be collected, can be used by people at home and overseas.

This year seven Cannock & District Soroptimists one Soroptimist's son went along to help with the grand clear-up. Wearing wellies and other appropriate clothing, they set to work dismantling and re-packing tents, rolling up air beds, collecting chairs,

SI Cannock & District

buckets, bowls, sleeping bags and unopened tinned food – and anything else left behind which was in good condition and might be of use to others.

The tents were all taken to the International Aid trucks and will be used in disaster areas around the world. All other items collected will be used by Pathway, the local refuge for women victims of domestic violence and by Staffordshire Women's Aid. In fact, many of the items have already been put to good use by local women who are in need.

It's Hall about Shirley Valentine

AT the August meeting members travelled to Greece with Shirley Valentine.

Audrey Hall gave a riveting talk, full of hilarity and charisma, about her one woman performance of Shirley Valentine and how she took the whole show, complete with a full-size cardboard cut-out of Shirley,

Hammerwich WI

scenery, sound system, and you've guessed it – the kitchen sink, to the island of Kavos. All agreed it was a most enjoyable evening.

On a sad note, members heard of the deaths of two stalwart members – Chris

tine Cattell and Nancy Stewart. They will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Members are looking forward to meeting with others from the Three Spires Group, at St Matthews Social Club, in October, for a meal to celebrate 100 years of the WI.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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Number of pupils expelled doubles

SCHOOLS in Staffordshire are expelling more than twice the number of pupils from two years ago, it has emerged.

A total of 40 primary school children and 133 high school children were expelled in the 2014-15 school year. That compares with 20 primary school youngsters and 64 high school students in 2012-13.

The figures emerged from Staffordshire County Council's new strategy to improve participation and attendance in schools between now and 2017.

Education chiefs have said there is no specific reason for the rise and said the number of exclusions was a tiny fragment of Staffordshire's entire pupil population.

Problems

They also said the increase was not considered to be a significant trend.

Councillor Ben Adams, cabinet member for learning and skills, said: "The decision to permanently exclude a pupil lies with the school and is a last resort, which is why the county council commissions its education support service Entrust to work with schools to tackle potential problems as they arise."

"However, while everyone works hard to keep children

By Carl Jackson

in school, we recognise how important it is that the majority of pupils are able to carry on with their education without interruption and accept there are some cases where permanent exclusion becomes inevitable.

"To put this in context, the figure of 100 pupils permanently excluded is 0.08 per cent of Staffordshire's school population, but we are not complacent and this issue is part of an attendance strategy to be unveiled shortly, which will see a great deal of work in coming months with partners across the county, including extending provision where needed for age and need."

By contrast the number of temporary exclusions has decreased in the last two years but chiefs have said it is worrying that children in care are more than four times as likely to be suspended than other pupils.

Awards go to the top 10 trainees



Cannock apprentice Edward Thomson – "it was a complete surprise to have won"

REDROW is recognising the achievements of 10 outstanding trainees. The housebuilder has awarded the title of 'Apprentice of the Year' to the 10 talented individuals from around its operating divisions who most impressed judges with their performance in the last year.

Winners were selected on the basis of their individual training progress reports, performance at college as they work towards their NVQs and feedback from sub-contractors, site managers and apprentice coordinators who work alongside them on site. Edward Thomson, aged 21, from Cannock, is a commercial apprentice with Redrow Homes (Midlands) in Tamworth. "I joined Redrow last September and the apprenticeship is going well so far," he said.

"I didn't know about the Apprentice of the Year award and thought I was in trouble when the managing director wanted to speak to me! It was a complete surprise to have won. Taking an apprenticeship was a no brainer for me as it's a direct pathway to a career and a great alternative to going to university." Trade apprentices are placed with an experienced sub-contractor, while they learn the skills required to do their chosen profession.

Karen Jones, HR director for Redrow, said: "Every year we recognise the very best young talent in our business."

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Barratt builds a new future for site lizards

COMMON lizards in Cannock have found a new home at Nun's Well Nature Reserve after housebuilder Barratt Homes West Midlands spent about £36,000 on a translocation programme.

After spotting a handful of the reptiles, or 'viviparous lizards', at the company's Pye Green Road site, Barratt, working with Cannock Chase Council, commissioned experts from The Environment Partnership (TEP) to monitor the population and move them to their new home.

After 60 days of collecting the lizards and five days clear with no sightings, a total of 190 individuals have now been integrated into the nearby nature reserve.

Barratt has installed a range of scrapes and hibernation features which will enhance the natural surroundings and give the creatures more places to hide, bask and feed.

Kim Gallaher, ecologist at TEP, said: "The common lizard is the UK's most common and widespread reptile. It is found across many habitats including heathland, moorland, woodland and grassland where it can be seen basking in sunny spots.

"The relocation process is straightforward – we put out items such as metal tins and bitumen mats that entice the lizards to come and bask in the sunshine and then we capture them and transport them to their new home.

"The process continued until we were happy there was no further ev-



Angie McEwan helps clear the development site of common lizards

idence of the lizards on site. Great consideration was taken in deciding a destination for the lizards, and the nearby Nun's Well Nature Reserve in Cannock Wood, which is managed by the local authority, was the chosen location.

"The project has been a complete success, and I'm pleased to report that the lizards are settling well into their new and improved home."

Adrian Farr, managing director at Barratt Homes West Midlands, said: "As a company, it is our philosophy to take into consideration the envi-

ronmental impact of a new residential scheme, and we go to great lengths to ensure we protect and mitigate any risk to the local ecology by providing suitable, alternative habitats, where necessary.

"By working with the local council and our expert partners, this project demonstrates our commitment to creating communities, not just houses, that leave a positive legacy."

Work to build 119 homes at the development, named Bilberry Chase, has begun, and the new homes will be on sale from next month.

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Dog dies after snake bite on the Chase



Ken Birch with Billy, who was bitten by a snake on Cannock Chase after his other dog, Woody, was killed by one

A DOG owner was left shocked after his beloved pet was killed by a snake on Cannock Chase – only for his other dog to be bitten five days later.

Ken Birch believes his six-year-old Springer Spaniel, Woody, was bitten on the tongue while running through heather on the country park.

After noticing the dog falling behind as they returned to his car, Mr Birch

took him to the vets but the dog could not be saved and died within a few hours. Five days later, in a different part of the Chase, his other Springer Spaniel was bitten. This time veterinary staff treated him successfully.

Mr Birch, aged 59, said: "With Woody there was no squeal or any indication that anything was wrong. The first thing I noticed was his lethargy,

which is very unlike him. When I lifted him into the back of my car his legs went from under him."

Woody, who Ken saved from a wood yard aged one, was struck on the tongue by the adder on August 21.

The venom was able to enter his bloodstream directly resulting in major organ failure. Mr Birch added: "This serves as a warning really."

Hospital complaints above 2,000 in year

THERE were more than 2,000 complaints made about hospitals in Staffordshire and the Black Country in the space of 12 months.

The figures, from June 2014 onwards, were supplied by the Health and Social Care Information Centre.

They show that the trust running Sandwell Hospital received more than twice as many complaints as any other in the Black Country.

A total of 837 complaints were made regarding Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust.

A total of 530 were upheld following further investigation.

During the same period, Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust received 365 complaints, with just five upheld.

Almost half of complaints made to the Dudley Group NHS Trust – 145 out of 313 – were upheld. Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust received 379 complaints with 18 upheld.

The University Hospital of North Midlands NHS Trust, which runs Stafford's County Hospital, received 826 complaints, of which 418 were upheld.

Liz Rix, chief nurse at the trust, said the number of complaints it had received was 'comparable to trusts across the country' and that less than



New Cross Hospital – 'timely'

0.5 per cent of patients had raised a complaint. "We endeavour to ensure all our patients receive the very best possible care and aim to resolve any issues or concerns that may have as quickly as possible," she added.

Reasons for complaints to individual trusts were not provided, but across the country they included length of time waiting for appointments, attitude of staff and delivery of treatment.

Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust spokesman Richard Radcliffe said an increasing number of people 'do see their concerns being dealt with in a timely manner and to their satisfac-

tion'. Amir Khan, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust medical director, said patients were 'actively encouraged to make a complaint if they feel the care they have received has not met up to our usual high standards'.

Meanwhile, Paula Clark, chief executive of the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Each year we receive more than 27,000 pieces of patient feedback, both good and bad, and we use that information to make the experience and care better for the 730,000 patients who come through our doors every year."

The findings in Sandwell have been met with concern by health chiefs and councillors. Ian McGarry, from Sandwell Healthwatch, said: "We will be asking people who have any comments about the service they receive at Sandwell Hospital to contact us."

Sandwell councillor Julie Webb said: "I am concerned about these numbers. However, you have to put it in proportion with residents. In Sandwell there are 300,000 residents and in West Birmingham another 200,000, so that's half a million people."

Colin Ovington, chief nurse at Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, said he rejected 'any suggestion that complaint figures alone are a measure of the quality of care provided'.

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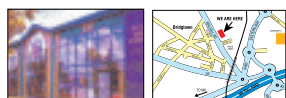
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Emotive subject of life and death

DANIEL WAINWRIGHT
Political Editor

WE are all unique in the universe and every single life is sacred, so giving someone the right to prescribe medication to kill anyone makes me uneasy.

I am not a religious man but I am in awe of the miracle of life. How could you ever want to give that up?

Then I think about someone living in unbearable pain, for whom even breathing has become a desperate reminder of how few breaths they may have left, and how much harder it is going to become and I think, who am I to tell them all this?

Dignity

Step forward Wolverhampton South West MP Rob Marris, bringing his Assisted Dying Bill to be debated in the Commons on Friday.

He presents it as a calm and rational response to an issue of growing concern – that there are people who want to end their lives in dignity but the law tells them they cannot.

The two doctors who would have to agree would not administer the drugs. A judge would have the final say.

The patient would have to be the one to take their own life. Opponents will not see it like that.

For even though the Bill would only allow lethal medication to be prescribed to someone diagnosed with



Wolverhampton South West MP Rob Marris

less than six months to live, it is effectively asking another human being for help to die. Last week alone, 36 religious leaders including priests and vicars from across the West Midlands told Mr Marris in an open letter, and in no uncertain terms, how much they objected.

For the former lawyer, on his second run as an MP, the task is not just about arguing the case for his Assisted Dying Bill, but about stressing all the things that it is not.

It is not, he says, euthanasia. It is not, he says, about pressuring someone who is elderly and infirm to end their life. The problem he faces, be-

yond the Bill itself, is that many of those who oppose assisted dying believe it to be the thin end of the wedge. There is no more emotive subject than the sanctity of life.

Christian ministers believe they are fighting to preserve it. Right to die campaigners believe desperately ill people are being condemned to suffer in pain. I think I'll feel sad or uneasy whichever way this goes.

Those of us sitting on the fence can only hope or pray that as far as ourselves and our loved ones are concerned, we never feel the need to ask someone else to decide on a matter of life and death.



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Ring Anne: 07410 977208
Great Wyrley
Wesley Methodist
Church Hall
Great Wyrley
9.30am "Morning Group"
Ring Kierston: 07824 665600

Cannock

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Stafford Road, Cannock 7pm
Ring Rose: 07837 088159
Breerton
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3.30pm & 5.30pm & 7.30pm
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Flavour of fun at food festival's street party



Gnomes for home - sisters Shannon and Keeley Swan, aged seven and three, from Armitage at the food festival in Lichfield
Pictures by Rick Matthews



Best hats - sisters Elisia and Lianie Lane, aged five and two, from Handsacre

THOUSANDS turned out for a fun-filled street party at Lichfield's Three Spires Shopping Centre to help celebrate the city's annual food festival.

Bakers Lane played host to children's craft workshops, free Pimms for adults plus an array of foodie stalls from all over the region.

Among those enjoying the free activities for youngsters were sisters Shannon, seven, and three-year-old Keeley Swan, who started off by having their faces painted and went on to enjoy the craft sessions where they got to

paint a ceramic gnome to keep. Their mother Claire Swan, of Armitage, said: "They're having a great time, painting away and looking at the stalls."

Shannon and Keeley attend Henry Chadwick Community School and Claire is starting the autumn term with them as a teaching assistant.

"It's a new job for me so I'm really looking forward to it," she said.

Visiting the festival for the first time were Christiana and Kevin Lane with daughters Elisia, five, and Lianie, two.

The family, who live in Handsacre, were thrilled with the colourful array of stalls and huge turnout. "The girls

decided to put on their best hats specially for the day," said Christiana. "They've loved it, especially the bit where they got an ice cream. There's a really good mood for the street party."

Three Spires Shopping Centre manager Lisa Prokopiou said: "The food festival is a much-loved highlight of Lichfield's calendar so we are thrilled to support it with a street party."

"This year we were blessed by exceptionally good weather so it's been bigger than ever. We're so pleased for our own street party team and everyone involved who puts such hard work into organising the festival."

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Council sickness level drops to all-time low

Lorry crash blocks road



The HGV collided with railings in High Street, Norton Canes

A BUSY route through Norton Canes was blocked off after a lorry collided with railings at a busy junction.

The HGV struck the metal railings in High Street at the corner of Burntwood Road and Brownhills Road on Thursday morning.

It is believed the driver had been trying to turn left from Brownhills Road into Burntwood Road.

Chronicle reader Gemma Davies captured the incident in this picture.

It led to the road being blocked with three sections of the fencing around the junction being torn out and damage caused to the pave-

STAFF sickness at South Staffordshire Council has dropped to an all-time low thanks to a new approach to managing absence.

The new approach has resulted in nearly 548 fewer days lost to sickness.

The reduction means that the council's annual absence rate – now at 6.19 days per employee – is lower than any other council in the West Midlands region.

A new sickness policy which places an emphasis on adjustments to help people stay in work or return to work was introduced in August 2014. The council sets itself challenging targets to reduce sickness absence levels to 6.95 full-time-equivalent days per employee each year.

The first year of the new policy has seen the council already exceed this target, boosting productivity and ensuring staff are supported to return to work.

Leader of South Staffordshire Council Brian Edwards said: "Efficient, effective organisations like South Staffordshire Council need a fit and healthy workforce."

Cost

"Whilst we realise that some staff sickness is unavoidable, our new approach has had a big effect. It's about taking action to support staff to prevent sickness, or when they are absent, helping them get back to work as soon as possible. It's not about being harsh or unreasonable, but about accepting that sickness absence has a cost to the organisation and ultimately the tax payer. We're taking steps to ensure those who are sick are being supported. For example our new policy includes adjustments to prevent and minimise absence as well as helping staff when they return to work."

"We also have established staff support such as occupational health, counselling and physiotherapy to proactively keep our absences to a minimum and support our staff. The result of our new approach is 548 more days worked by our staff, to provide the services that people in South Staffordshire rely on. The commitment of our staff has played a major role in reducing absence and their support is greatly appreciated."

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Land off Landywood Lane, Great Wyrley



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We would welcome your views and feedback on our proposals and hope you are able to attend.

Any Questions?...
If you have any questions in relation to the Public Exhibition or the Proposed Development then please do not hesitate to contact us:

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Popular actress a special guest for launch ceremony

DAME Penelope Keith is to be guest of honour at a turf-cutting ceremony in Staffordshire tomorrow. The actress, who shot to fame in the 1970s sitcom *The Good Life*, will be at the National Memorial Arboretum, where work on a £15.7 million Remembrance Centre is due to start.



Penelope Keith

She has a long association with the Royal British Legion, which runs the centre, and is a member of the NMA Appeal Council.

More than £10m has been raised towards the cost of the building following a public appeal for funds.

The new centre will have dedicated education facilities to cater for 25,000 schoolchildren a year – up from 10,000.

The 75-year-old actress said: "When I first saw plans for the NMA Appeal I thought they looked amazing and that the appeal deserved as much support as possible."

"For anyone who hasn't been here it is a truly remarkable place – very humbling and uplifting in so many ways."

Sea Cadet Beth Molyneux, aged 11, whose father Lieutenant Commander Ian Molyneux was shot and killed on board HMS Astute as it was docked in Southampton in April 2011, is also a guest.



Watchman V and his handler Colour Sergeant Greg Hedges V at the unveiling of the new memorial at National Memorial Arboretum which was attended by dozens of veterans

Veterans at unveiling of memorial to fallen

DESIGNED by former soldiers to remember the fallen – after 18 months of planning and fundraising a new memorial to the Staffordshire Regiment has been finally unveiled.

Dozens of veterans gathered at the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas to dedicate a 15ft-high obelisk after the previous memorial had been branded an 'insult'.

The sun shone as former soldiers and their families took part in the ceremony on Saturday, the annual reunion day for the regiment.

Ex-servicemen marched through the arboretum, led by the Staffordshire Regimental Association's mascot, bull terrier Watchman V. Lieutenant Colonel Giles Woodhouse, president of the association, said: "Backed by three tatty flagpoles, the initial monument was constructed from ordinary basic brickwork and topped with a metal plaque, which began to look outdated and tired."

"The association therefore decided to build a more fitting and respectable memorial, to reflect the regiment's history, of over 300 years."

"I have been genuinely moved by the huge effort that has gone into both the fundraising and the building of the memorial. It's been a privilege to see the progress that

has led to this inspiring memorial." Members of the association made the decision to replace the original memorial more than 18 months ago.

The monument was designed as a scaled-down version of two obelisks which stand within Whittington Barracks, commemorating the North and South Staffordshire Regiments.

It was constructed from Red Hollington or 'Staffordshire Stone' – the same material used in the building of Lichfield Cathedral and Warwick Castle.

Designed

Some £32,000 was raised from public donations – three times more than the association's target.

Significant contributions were made by Biddulph Town Council and Lichfield's 'Tippers Building Merchants', with bucket collections and online auctions also helping raise the necessary cash.

The memorial is the only one at the arboretum to be built and designed by former soldiers.

Brigadier Jim Tanner said: "This has been an amazing achievement by our association. Many members have pulled their shirt sleeves up and worked exceptionally hard to make the project a success."

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Picture-perfect image marks church milestone

A PAINTING has been created to mark the 900th anniversary of one of Cannock's finest landmarks.

Professional artist John Twinning has spent the past few months on an image of St Luke's Church to mark its milestone.

The commissioning of the picture, which shows the church at its picturesque best, has been made under the St Luke 900 project, which has been jointly funded by Staffordshire County Council together with a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The project, organised by congregation members Nigel and Janet Bailey and artist Linda Hopley, has seen celebratory events held in and around the church during the last few months including a medieval fair and a series of historic mystery plays.

Mr Twinning, aged 54, from Colliers Way, Cannock, was commissioned by the organising group to paint a picture representing the church as it looks in the 21st Century.

Honoured

To give the painting the required effect he used very fine brushes.

The artist, who has been working on paintings since he was a teenager, has exhibited and sold widely in galleries throughout England.

He said: "I was honoured and felt privileged to undertake this work for such a special and auspicious occasion."

"As the festival events and regular weekly worship prove, this building is an important beacon within the town."

"I feel honoured that my painting will be put on display in St Luke's and to have been able to play some small part in this historic event which has also seen a great amount of fund raising in support of the church."

Prints of the picture are available to purchase. Anyone interested can call John on 01543 500167 or visit his website at www.twinningfineart.co.uk



Cannock artist John Twinning with Linda Hopley and the Rev Peter Hart

Zumba charity challenge

A ZUMBA class in Burntwood is to play a part in a Land's End to John O'Groats dance fundraiser on Sunday.

Choo Choo Dave's Dance Challenge will stop off at Jackie Goodwin's session at St John's Church Rooms in Ironstone Road.

Dave White is aiming to complete 45 Zumba classes between September 6 and 26 in aid of Cancer Research UK.

"I am delighted that he has picked my class to host the Midlands part of this challenge," said Jackie, who has been teaching Zumba classes in

Burntwood and Heath Hayes for the last four years.

"I will be donating all proceeds from this class to Cancer Research UK via the dance challenge website."

After the Burntwood session, other destinations for Choo Choo Dave's Dance Challenge include Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent, Leeds, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Edinburgh and Inverness. Visit www.choochoodave.co.uk for further information.

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ST LUKE'S CHURCH, CANNOCK

On Saturday 19th September, St Luke's Church in Cannock holds its bi-annual Arts and crafts Festival (10am - 4pm). Entry is free.

The Festival will feature 'The Holy Writ Cloak', which when displayed at Lichfield Cathedral last year attracted 20,000 visitors.

Local artists include John Twinning, who has been commissioned to paint a modern watercolour of the church (which will be on display with prints available to buy).

Other exhibitors include Cannock Photographic Society, Sylvia Everitt - photos of the Millennium tapestries and embroidery, Vidor Willows, Chadsmoor Embroideries and 'Painting with Friends' Art Club.

Stalls include scarves, knitwear, embroidery, paper sculpture, photography, paintings, corn dollies, cards, jewellery, woodland crafts and Christmas crafts, glass art, soaps and hand-made gifts.

A workshop for children will provide an opportunity to decorate crosses.

For further information and enquiries please phone Linda Hopley 01543 503369

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New pitch to be opened

CONSTRUCTION of a new 3G pitch in Penkridge has been completed – and bookings are already being made. The new facility at Penkridge Leisure Centre, based at Wolgarston High School, in Cannock Road, was handed over by contractor SIS in July and will be formally opening later this month, or in October. South Staffordshire Council officers said that bookings are very limited, having gone well so far. The authority has subsequently commissioned to install a 3G pitch in Codsall. It is estimated it will be finished and handed over by October 12.

Fury after away fans put stickers on barriers

HEDNESFORD Town has hit out at fans from FC United, a club set up by breakaway fans from Manchester United, after vandalism during the clubs' game at Keys Park.

The United fans left stickers on the railings of the away terracing during the National League North game leaving club officials with a clean-up operation.

It came after about a group of Pitmen fans spent the summer months painting and cleaning the ground.

A statement posted on Twitter by the club said: "Fans work hard all summer painting and cleaning to have it ruined in one afternoon."

"Stickers cause damage, time and extra work."

The club also uploaded several pictures on their Twitter feed showing some of the stickers stuck on railings at the ground which has a capacity of more than 6,000.



One of the stickers

Clean

Scott Smith, chairman of Hednesford Town Supporters' Trust, said he saw about half a dozen stickers stuck on the barriers.

"It's really disappointing to see this take place because people have worked so hard, in their own time, to paint and clean around the ground," he said.

"It's more of an annoyance really."

"People may say 'It's only a few stickers' but either they are stuck on forever or you take it off and it leaves marks or the paint comes off with it."

"When this happens it then takes more time to clean up."

"And you have to remember we all have other jobs," Mr Smith added.

"We are not anti-anyone,

we want everyone to come here and have a good time.

"But the stickers may still be there tomorrow and it may encourage other fans to stick things on."

Hednesford lost the game 3-0 in front of a crowd of 927.

Andy Walker, a press officer for FC United, said: "Hednesford Town have not approached us about this incident so we are in a position where we cannot provide much comment on this."

"If Hednesford Town approached us about the incident then we would be happy to discuss it with them."

FC United were formed in 2005 by Manchester United supporters who were opposed to American businessman Malcolm Glazer's controversial takeover of the club.

Groups urged to make bids for grant aid

BURNWOOD Town Council has issued a reminder that the closing date for grant aid applications is Friday, September 18.

Applications are invited from organisations that provide a service to the local community or enhance the image and identity of Burnwood. The scheme provides start-up grants for new organisations as well as grants to organisations which are already operating.

Late applications or applications from individuals will not be considered.

Applicants must have clearly stated aims and objectives set out in writing; a written constitution; be

able to provide a copy of the latest annual accounts and most recent bank statement and have a bank account operated by a minimum of at least two joint signatories.

The organisation must provide, or propose to provide, an activity or service that will be of benefit to the Burnwood community or to a particular group of residents.

Applications forms can be requested from the council's office at Unit 1, Lambourne House, Bridge Cross Road, Burnwood between 9.30am and 3pm Monday to Friday, downloaded from www.burnwood-tc.gov.uk or on 01543 677166.



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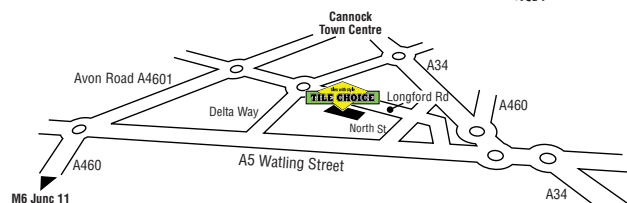
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We welcome puppies as soon as vaccinations are complete. It is important that they get used to the surroundings. New scents and sounds can be intimidating; therefore we would expect them to have a few small sessions, to boost their confidence and get them ready for regular grooming sessions.

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Gemma, Garage Proprietor at Car Friend comments "Customers always comment on the fact that I'm a woman in this type of work, although I'm not afraid to get my hands dirty. I can turn my hand and have a sound knowledge on the mechanical side of the business, I tend to do the clean stuff". Car Friend never set out to be a 'woman friendly' garage but that's how it seems to have gone. Female drivers love to bring their cars to us they have the opportunity to sit in our warm comfortable waiting area have a FREE proper cup of tea or coffee and we are always available for a good old chin wag while their car gets the first class treatment in our workshop. Customers say that they love the way we are so honest, reliable and trustworthy and how we explain everything in a way that's



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Next phase of £2m park revamp starts



Workmen busy at Hednesford Park, where foundations are being laid ready for a new play area and skate park

THE next stage in the £2.2 million transformation of Hednesford Park is under way. Diggers have moved onto the site to lay the foundations of the new play area and skate park as part of a five-year facelift.

The design of both facilities was developed in consultation with around 25 schools, nurseries and community groups over 70 hours of discussions.

All those contacted were given the chance to put their ideas forward in a wide variety of different media. The designs were then passed on to the contractors who were asked to include as many views and concepts as possible.

And the public involvement did not end there. Those children involved were invited to the Civic Centre to help decide which contractor to appoint.

The new play area will include sleeper steps representing a winding wheel, reflecting the area's mining history.

There will also be a 20ft-high climbing tower, sand pit and water feature, including decking area. Zip wires, basket swings, a toddler play area, climbing pole, rodeo boards and a teen shelter are among the equipment to be installed.

The design for the concrete skate park is still under consultation, with the last chance for people to have their say on how it will look coming on Wednesday, September 16, at Hednesford Park. Lynn Evans, a member of the 90-strong Friends of Hednesford Park group, said: "We're delighted at the progress of the work."

The revamp is due to be completed by 2017.

Anger over early move of hospital treatment

INPATIENT blood services at Stafford's County Hospital are transferring to Wolverhampton and Stoke in a controversial move.

The relocation comes days before a public consultation to find a permanent long-term home for the service. The decision to move treatment for patients with blood disorders before the consultation has angered campaigners.

By Katy-Rose Meaney

The consultation will run from September 14 until October 26 and will include two public events, at the Aquarius Ballroom in Hednesford on September 16 and at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre on September 29.

The Support Stafford Hospital group said moving the service to Royal Stoke University Hospital and New Cross Hospital before asking patients for their opinions is an 'insult'.

Campaigner Cheryl Porter said: "Holding this consultation after just proves that our views mean nothing. It's insulting but, after four years of campaigning, we know that any consultation, even if thousands share their views, means nothing."

"It's a tick-box service to

say they have spoken to patients, nothing more."

The relocation was announced at a Clinical Commissioning Group meeting in a report by chairman Andy Donald.

A report blames the 'difficulties in recruiting specialist doctors' and 'outdated facilities' for the transfer from the Weston Road site.

It read: "Due to the difficulties in recruiting specialist doctors and nurses, the absence of important supporting services at County Hospital and the outdated facilities, following a review has led to a decision to move the service temporarily."

A final decision will be made by CCG members for Cannock and Stafford.

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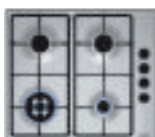
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FOCUS ON RUGELEY

Dosh for slosh as firm's workers stage car wash

IF the recent wet and windy weather has left you giving up on the barbecue, do not despair – Canalside Farm in Great Haywood has the answer.

It has introduced the 'grillaque' – an idea dreamed up by owner Chris Barton, who was fed-up of cancelling barbecues with friends because of the wet weather.

Chris said: "This summer has been such a wash-out that we decided that instead of cancelling our barbecues we would simply cook the meat we'd bought for the barbecue on the grill indoors."

"It was still a really simple way to entertain and everyone really enjoyed it."

"So now we're encouraging everyone not to give up on the idea, just to simply move it indoors." Call 01889 881747 or visit www.canalsidefarm.co.uk

Cash plea to buy peanuts

THE public is being asked to buy peanuts to bait traps for badgers as part of a five-year bovine TB vaccination programme.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust is asking people to pay £10 for enough peanuts to bait a trap for two weeks, or £20 for a dose of the vaccine and syringe.

The trust has now completed the third year of the scheme.

A CHARITY car wash was held in Rugeley in honour of a 13-year-old cancer patient and to raise funds for a national charity.

Workers from City Electrical Factors were inspired by Reece Marshall, who is battling against a rare form of bone cancer. Twenty staff, customers and relatives helped to clean up to 40 cars.

The event was held outside the business in Power Station Road in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust.

More than £370 was raised in four-and-a-half hours. Staff decided to host the event as the teenager's father Gordon is a customer and was looking to collect cash for the trust.

Account manager Cheryl Hewitt said: "It was a lovely turnout, the whole of the town got together and got behind it. It was a real sense of community."

"We are going to make it an annual thing. Reece is a little soldier, so brave."

Reece, who lives in Burston near Stone, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in January. Osteosarcoma is a rare type of bone cancer and usually develops in growing bones.

It is most common in teenagers and young adults.

By Nigel Slater

Reece had a major operation in June which saw him have his knee and femur bone replaced.

Since then, he has been on an heavy programme of chemotherapy which is still ongoing.

Reece's illness has been so traumatic for him he has not been able to take part in any schooling during the calendar year.

A keen rugby fan, he also found out he had been scouted by Premiership giants Leicester Tigers weeks after he was diagnosed.

His father Gordon, 44, said he was delighted the company had chosen to help out for the cause.

The family have raised more than £2,000 for the charity through numerous fundraising events.



Cheryl Hewitt and her colleagues hosted a charity car wash inspired by Reece Marshall, aged 13

Wage rises a boost for pubs chain

THE owner of some of the area's best known pubs and restaurants has reaped the benefit of improving wages to deliver a big boost in sales.

The Restaurant Group, whose pubs include the Red Lion at Longdon Green near Rugeley, increased revenue by eight per cent to £334 million in the first half of the year.

Attributing the improvement to improvements in wages and higher disposable income, the group also revealed that on a like-for-like basis excluding newly opened pubs, sales improved by 2.5 per cent.

As well as chain restaurants Frankie & Benny's, and Chiquitos, The Restaurant Group owns the Brunning & Price pub group.

Pre-tax profit rose by 10 per cent to £36.9 million for the Restaurant Group.

Team search for a goalie

BRERETON Town FC under-16s are in desperate need of a goalkeeper due to a season-long injury.

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The Mayor of Bilston giving tea to evacuees following their arrival



Evacuees in a Baptist school hall in Wolverhampton



Wolverhampton Women's Voluntary Service distributing clothes to evacuee mothers

Recalling days of Operation Pied Piper

MEMORY LANE

Report by Carl Chinn

VIVID news film of the conflicts in Spain, Abyssinia and China of the mid-1930s onwards brought home to the British people the awfulness of modern warfare.

Mostly because it not only affected those in the Armed Forces, but it also devastated the lives of countless numbers of civilians.

Distressing footage showed the panic of old men, women and children as they fled air raids and the onslaughts of enemy troops. It made plain the gruesome injuries, maimings and corpses. And it revealed clearly the havoc, desolation and inhumanity of war.

The effects of aerial bombing in particular altered the considerations of the British government. As early as 1935, when appeasement was pursued



Children among London evacuees who arrived in Wolverhampton on July 11, 1944. The Express & Star said they 'crooned all the way'

vigorously and rearmament was still resisted, procedures were put in place for training experts to co-ordinate civilian responses if war broke out and there were raids on Britain's cities.

Accordingly, organised evacuation was a major feature of wartime preparations. On September 1, 1939, two

days before war was declared, national and local plans were put into operation in Operation Pied Piper. It was the biggest movement of people in the history of Britain. Those who went away did so with their schools, and around 100,000 teachers were involved, acting as guardians for their pupils. Some of

these were as young as five. In later evacuations, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton and Smethwick were places to which London evacuees were sent.

Among those involved was the family of Des Stokes, who asks: "Since 1946 from time to time I have tried to locate the three children who stayed with my family. There was a boy named Cornelius and his two sisters, Pamela and Patricia, all from Croydon, Surrey. I never gave up hope of finding them and recently our search was rewarded, all due to my youngest grand-daughter Poppy, aged seven.

"The school that she attends in St Albans in Hertfordshire gave her a book to read about the Second World War. My daughter suggested that Poppy should contact me because I had experienced what it was like during the air raids. Poppy was communicating with me via an iPad. Whilst I was talking to my granddaughter, I was interrupted by my own daughter, who suddenly said 'He is still alive!'. 'Who?', I said, and she read out details of a man named Cornelius.

"She had been using her computer and his name was followed by his ad-

dress and contact number. I made a note of this and next day phoned the number, which was answered immediately. We had a good chat and it was revealed that this was one of the evacuees, and both of his sisters were still alive.

"He also gave me the telephone number of Pamela, who was overjoyed to hear from me when I phoned her, as she too had been trying to find us to say thank you for caring for them all during their stay as evacuees.

"We hoped that we could meet them soon. After 70 years, we had a lot to talk about, and it all started with my seven-year-old grand-daughter and her question about evacuees. We finally contacted one of the evacuees on March 3, 2015 and a date was fixed for her to visit us on April 21. Between the two dates I had tried to find out any details of the dates that evacuees had arrived in Smethwick, also which school they had attended. I tried the Archives in Smethwick and Sandwell and 'Smethwick Heritage' magazine, all to no avail. It was looking as if there was no such thing as evacuees in Smethwick."

Des adds: "Inquiries directed me to the Thimblemill Library where I spoke to a lady who was on the board of governors and she promised to make a few phone calls.

"She had our phone number and contacted us the day after to say that my wife and myself together with the evacuee could visit the school on April 22. Whilst conducting this search, I was also looking into records on the evacuees' brother, who had spent eight months in the Hollies (also known as Coopers Lane Open Air School), but with no result at all.

"At long last the evacuee arrived on April 21 and next day we all went to Uplands School. On arrival the evacuee immediately recognised the school and proved that she had attended during her stay in Mansion Crescent.

"The guide showed us around and at the end produced documents for the evacuee and her sister which clearly showed her date of birth, when they started and when they left.

"One of the classes intended to do a project on the Second World War, and both my wife and I will be invited to sit in front to answer questions."

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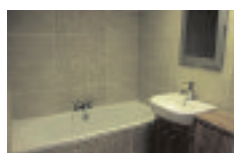
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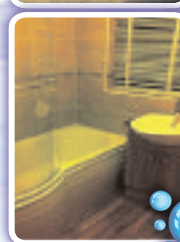
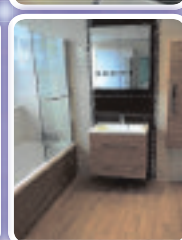
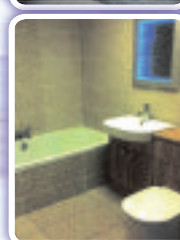
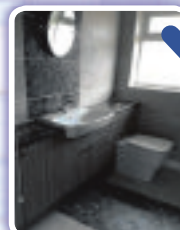
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Mystery solved – it was Pirates in snap



Dennis Marshman, aged 79, from Great Wyrley, responded to this appeal for information

THE mystery of a black and white photograph taken in the 1950s has been solved by a Great Wyrley man.

The team shot of the Pelsall Pirates skid racing club was identified by former member Dennis Marshman.

He recognised the snap featuring 14 of his team-mates – although he is not on the picture himself.

The 79-year-old, from The Crescent, said it was both a shock and a pleasure to see the photograph in the Chronicle's sister paper, the Express & Star.

He said: "My son brought it around and said 'Dad, have you got an idea about any of these people?'"

"I never thought I would hear about it again."

"We formed around 1950 and in 1953 we won the second division of

the Birmingham League. We used to ride against all of the other counties, Sussex and from Middlesex.

"We had a match in Pelsall and they only allowed three of us to ride – me, Dom Bird and Alan Wright. But we won the match and the league so I was happy to be picked."

Sponsored

"There was quite a lot of interest in us in those days, Sunday afternoon there was quite a crowd of people."

"We used to get sponsored by the local bike shop, which would give us the spokes for our bikes and other bits and bobs."

"It was a very big thing around Birmingham. I just can't remember why it stopped. I think some of the lads got

called up for service. I did miss it afterwards."

Mr Marshman rode with the pirates for just over four years before the club finished and he had a season with the Birmingham Lions.

But he said after that he never rode again. For much of his life he has been a miner, and at one time worked down the Wyrley No 3 pit with team-mate Dom and other riders.

Pelsall History Centre called for members of the team to come forward in 2006. The last time most of them met was when Dom died shortly after that.

Mr Marshman said: "That is the last time I spoke to some of them, at the funeral, but I would love to hear from people from the club."



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Pharmacy at cutting edge of health



Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling cuts the ribbon with pharmacist Toyin Olajide, third from left, area manager Harj Sadhra, fourth from left, and other members of staff and customers

THE team at LloydsPharmacy in Hednesford, helped by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, officially opened the doors to its modern approach to community health.

The store in Victoria Street Shopping Centre has been transformed as part of a large-scale roll-out across the UK and follows the launch of LloydsPharmacy's wider initiative to deliver 'forward-thinking and flexible healthcare'.

Hednesford residents can now benefit from enhanced

services for a range of conditions at the revamped store, with a particular emphasis on skin health and pain management. Pharmacy manager Jody Duru said: "We're excited by our transformation; we want our new store to become the destination of choice for customers looking for expert health advice."

"Our knowledgeable seven-strong team will be on hand to provide customers with individual expertise."

Funding deadline near

COMMUNITY groups with ideas to cut crime have only days left to bid for a share of £500,000.

The money, which comes from the People Power Funding scheme, set up by Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis, is available to groups who register before Monday.

As part of his commitment to local communities, he is providing £500,000 in 2015-16 through the fund in the form of grants of between £100 and

£3,000. Groups who apply should work to reduce anti social behaviour, run mentoring programs or strive to improve the quality of life in their area.

Mr Ellis said: "The fund puts half a million pounds back into local communities and is easy and simple to apply for. It is about local ideas to sort out local issues like anti-social behaviour. "If you've got a good idea, the People Power Fund may be able to help you achieve it."

If you are a community group with good ideas to cut crime or make your area safer, go to the website now to

find out more." People Power applications need to be sponsored by the group's Neighbourhood Police Officer or PCSO and will initially be assessed by the local Community Safety Partnership.

The People Power Fund is one part of £2.5 million of Commissioner's Community Funding for 2015-16. The Commissioner's Proceeds of Crime Fund is seeing 100 per cent of funding received by Staffordshire Police going back into local communities.

Details on how to apply are available at www.staffordshire-pcc.gov.uk/fund



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Council in pledge not to sell off countryside

WI show the way with sign



Thelma Waters, vice-president of Gentleshaw WI, Gaynor Dickson, president of Gentleshaw WI, Sheila Moulton, WI county chairman, Maureen Freeman, chairman of Cannock Chase Council, and Dan Newton

A STAFFORDSHIRE village has a new sign welcoming visitors thanks to the efforts of the Women's Institute.

This year is the centenary year for the movement, and members in Gentleshaw held a competition to design the sign for neighbouring Cannock Wood.

The winning design was the Women's Institute centenary logo which now appears at the top of the road sign, which was unveiled on Saturday.

Andy Newton from Court Bank

Farm, Cannock Wood, sponsored the project.

Thelma Waters, vice-president of Gentleshaw Women's Institute, said: "The competition was held at the institute, and the chosen design was the WI centenary logo."

"Staffordshire WI chairman Sheila Moulton agreed to unveil it and also opened a country fair at the village hall in aid of the village hall funds."

"Both events were well attended by the local residents and surrounding areas."

STAFFORDSHIRE County Council has vowed not to sell any part of its countryside estate portfolio – including assets such as Chasewater and Cannock Chase.

The pledge came despite some land being considered a drain on the public purse. The authority reacted to a fierce public backlash sparked by fears bosses would consider selling off popular sites. The council is reviewing what to do with the 18 countryside sites it owns throughout Staffordshire, which cost around £900,000 per year to run.

But after a list of 10 options was published, including proposals to sell some locations or transfer ownership to other organisations, Cannock's Green Party launched a Save Staffordshire Countryside petition which has been backed by campaign group 38 Degrees and attracted more than 11,000 signatures.

Now, the council's Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee has ruled out any move that would see the authority relinquish ownership of any site – including Wimblebury Road, Cannock, and Broad Lane, Essington – which are not used by the public and, bosses say, are costing 'thousands' to maintain.

Paul Woodhead, co-ordinator of Cannock's Green Party, claimed the council had 'climbed down' due to the campaign. He said: "The support and passion of all our supporters has, I am convinced, made a real difference to the debate."

The committee advised that the council should generate more income from its countryside estates and set up a charitable trust or community interest company to run the attractions. It also said some of the smaller sites, such as picnic areas at Cannock Wood or Hatherton Reservoir, could be managed by a community group or parish council.

Environment chief Councillor Mark Winton claimed the original options had been misrepresented by campaigners. He said: "I reiterate that there are no plans to sell off Cannock Chase and Chasewater."

Formal options on what to do with each of the sites will be published next month.

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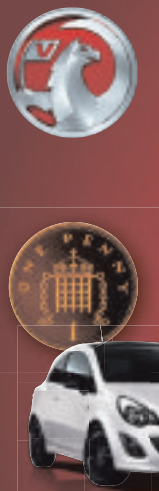
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63 Corsa 1.2 Energy 3dr, 16" alloys, Bluetooth, CD Player, A/C, 7385 miles, Grey.....	£6999	
12 Corsa 1.2 Active 5dr, 16" alloys, A/C, Bluetooth, 33178 miles, Grey.....	£6999	
61 Corsa 1.4 SRI 3dr, 17" alloys, A/C, Body Kit, Cruise Control, 25905 miles, Silver.....	£6999	
61 Corsa 1.2 SE 5dr, 16" alloys, Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 29864 miles, Green.....	£6999	
62 Corsa 1.4 Black Edition 3dr, 17" alloys, A/C, Stop/Start, 46423 miles, Black.....	£7499	
13 Corsa 1.2 Energy 3dr, 16" alloys, CD Player, A/C, 8825 miles, White.....	£7499	
62 Corsa 1.4 Active 5dr, 16" alloys, ½ leather, A/C, Bluetooth, 9075 miles, Black.....	£7799	
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12 Corsa 1.2 CDTi, 16" alloys, Glass Roof & Sunroof, Heated Seats, ½ leather, 21332 miles, Red.....	£7999	
12 Corsa 1.2 CDTi Ltd, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, Sat Nav, VXR Styling Pack, 37416 miles, Black.....	£7999	
14 Corsa Eco Flex 3dr, 16" alloys, Bluetooth, A/C, CD Player, 7241 miles, White.....	£7999	
14 Corsa 1.4 Excite 3dr, 16" alloys, USB, AUX, Heated Seats, 8878 miles, Red.....	£8499	
12 Corsa 1.4 SE 5dr, 16" alloys, Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, ½ leather, 5903 miles, Orange.....	£8499	
12 Corsa 1.4 SE 5dr, 16" alloys, Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, A/C, 7806 miles, Silver.....	£8499	
64 Corsa 1.4 SE 3dr, 16" alloys, Heated Front Seats, Cruise Control, 3521 miles, White.....	£8499	
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63 Astra 1.6 Energy 5dr, 17" alloys, Bluetooth, A/C, CD Player, 15012 miles, Silver.....	£9999	
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12 Astra 2.0 SRI 5dr, 17" alloys, Parking Sensors, Alarm, Electric Handbrake, 10114 miles, Brown.....	£10499	
12 Astra 2.0 CDTi Elite 5dr, 17" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Leather, 22063 miles, Silver.....	£11999	
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64 Mokka 1.7 Techline, 18" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Sat Nav, 4832 miles, Black.....	£15499	
64 Mokka 1.7 Techline, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, Parking sensors, 4100 miles, Boracay Blue.....	£16999	
64 Mokka 1.7 Techline, 18" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Sat Nav, 6986 miles, Blue.....	£16999	
64 Mokka 1.7 Techline, 18" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Sat Nav, 3029 miles, Orange.....	£16999	



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12 Zafira Design 1.6, 16" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, 23641 miles, Silver.....	£9499	
12 Zafira Design 1.7, 16" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, 27387 miles, Red.....	£9599	
12 Zafira Design 1.8, 16" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, 8664 miles, Blue.....	£10499	
14 Zafira Tourer 2.0 CDTi, Front & Rear Sensors, Cruise Control, A/C, 13573 miles, Silver.....	£13499	
64 Zafira 2.0 SRI Tourer 5dr, 18" alloys, Heated Seats, Leather, Parking Sensors, 8626 miles, Red.....	£17499	
INSIGNIA		
61 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRI, 20" alloys, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, Electric Handbrake, 38259 miles, White.....	£9999	
12 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRI, 18" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Sat Nav, 17874 miles, Brown.....	£11499	
14 Insignia 2.0 CDTi 5dr, 18" alloys, Parking sensors, Sat Nav, 20800 miles, Silver.....	£12999	
63 Insignia 2.0 CDTi 5dr, 18" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, 12500 miles, Black.....	£13499	
64 Insignia 2.0 CDTi 5dr, 19" alloys, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, Leather, 5880 miles, Silver.....	£16999	
64 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRI VX, 19" alloys, Parking Sensors, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, 3423 miles, Black.....	£17499	
15 Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRI VX, 19" alloys, Parking Sensors, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, 7761 miles, Silver.....	£18499	
64 Insignia 2.0 Ltd Edition 5dr, 18" alloys, Parking sensors, Btooth, Heated seats, VXR Styling pk, White.....	£18999	
ANTARA		
61 Antara 2.2 CDTi Exclusiv, 17" alloys, Tow bar, ½ leather, Heated seats, CD player, 34267 miles, White.....	£10799	
12 Antara 2.2 CDTi Exclusiv, 17" alloys, Electric Handbrake, Electric Windows, 33187 miles, Black.....	£10999	
62 Antara 2.2 CDTi Exclusiv, 18" alloys, Front & Rear Sensors, Heated Seats, 22922 miles, White.....	£12999	
64 Antara 2.2 CDTi 4x4, Leather Seats, Front & Rear Sensors, Sat Nav, USB, 14254 miles, Black.....	£16999	
CASCADA		
64 Cascada 2.0 CDTi SE Convertible, 18" alloys, Bluetooth, A/C, Del miles EX DEMO, Grey.....	£17499	
63 Cascada 2.0 CDTi Convertible, 20" alloys, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, Rear Sensors, 11396 miles, White.....	£17999	
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62 Astra GTC 1.4 SRI 3dr, 18" alloys, USB, A/C, Electric Handbrake, 9140 miles, Silver.....	£10999	
63 GTC 1.4 SRI 3dr, 19" alloys, Bluetooth, DAB, 18500 miles, Red.....	£11499	
13 Corsa 1.6 VXR 3dr, 17" alloys, A/C, Cruise Control, Recaro Seats, 11499 miles, Red.....	£11499	
14 Corsa 1.6 VXR 3dr, 18" alloys, a/c, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, 9598 miles, White.....	£14799	
13 Insignia 2.8 VXR 5dr, 19" alloys, Cruise Control, Recaro Racing Seats, 14941 miles, Silver.....	£17999	
62 Astra 2.0 VXR 3dr, 20" alloys, Bluetooth, AUX, USB, Aero Pack, 15754 miles, Red.....	£17999	
15 Astra 2.0 VXR 3dr, 20" alloys, Bluetooth, Aero Pack, DAB Radio, 2465 miles, Black.....	£20999	
59 VXR8 6.2 V8 4dr AUTO, 19" alloys, Bluetooth, Rear Parking sensors, 30200 miles, Black.....	£22999	
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62 Vivaro 2.0 CDTi, N/S & O/S Sliding Door, 6 Seats Crew Cab, CD Player, 40999 miles, Blue.....	£104999+vat	
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Remand on shot officer

A MAN accused of shooting a Cannock police officer in the eye has appeared in court. Matthew Tearle, aged 35, of no fixed address, pleaded not guilty to wounding Sgt Jonathan King with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. In a hearing at Stafford Crown Court, Tearle also denied possessing a prohibited firearm. The charges follow an alleged incident in Rugeley, on October 19. Sgt King lost his right eye after the incident. The judge, Recorder Mr Oscar del Fabbro, adjourned the case for trial on January 25 and remanded Tearle on bail to St George's Hospital in Stafford.

Debate on fire cuts a success, say bosses

A PUBLIC consultation over the future of Staffordshire's fire service which sparked controversy has been hailed a success.

Concerns spread among residents in February when fire chiefs announced they were considering a 'New Delivery Model' which would have essentially cut the fire service's emergency cover in the county by two thirds in a bid to save £1.7 million.

It would have removed emergency cover from 18 stations and seen the number of engines reduced from 42 at 33 stations to 15 engines at 15 stations. It prompted South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson to launch a petition against the proposal which gained more than 3,000 signatures. Lichfield MP Michael Fabricant also criticised the proposals labelling them 'irresponsible and reckless'.

Ultimately bosses scrapped the plans and opted for more less radical changes which saw 43 posts axed and savings of £1.1m.

Decision

But in a review of how the fire service conducted the consultation, bosses say the process was a success.

A report, published ahead of yesterday's scrutiny and performance committee meeting, says 458 people turned up to a number of consultation events across the county, and 467 people completed a questionnaire detailing the proposals put forward by the fire service.

Summarising the consultation exercise, Phillip Gillingham, head of communications at Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "Based on the level of response achieved by the Community Safety Options consultation and the

breadth of comments received from different stakeholders, the programme can be judged as a success. "It was a conscious decision to focus consultation on the nine station areas where specific options were being considered. "The impact of the New Delivery Model proposal was perhaps underestimated in relation to engagement in other areas of the county – especially those mentioned in the NDM as potentially having emergency response removed from the local area. "The local level engagement and involvement of the Service Delivery Groups enabled a greater reach to the consultation and the interaction of the SDG leads with some challenging local dialogues helped increase the level of local understanding."

Rethink vow on site proposals for gipsy plots

PROPOSALS for 33 gipsy and traveller pitches will be 'reassessed' after changes to planning laws came into force, a council chief said.

South Staffordshire Council was looking to create the new pitches by 2028 but that number could be drastically reduced or even wiped out completely.

The new policy says caravan sites should be made available only for those who travel permanently.

Council leader Brian Edwards said: "We were due to make a decision on the sites fairly soon but we will now of course look at what these changes to the legislation mean and if necessary they

will be reassessed." There were 29 sites with potential for 166 pitches put forward by landowners for consideration, in areas including Shreshill, Coven Heath, Bilbrook, Seisdon and Essington. The proposals include two sites in Shreshill, containing 20 pitches in total. Further sites are Ball Lane, Coven Heath, Dark Lane, Slade Heath, New Road, Featherstone, Lane Green Avenue in Bilbrook and Church Road, Seisdon. All of the sites have been made available by landowners. In Essington land in Hobnock Road, Broad Lane and Long Lane has been highlighted.

Hardy conjures up her own Xanadu

CD REVIEWS

by Danny Farragher

Ange Hardy
Esteese

BEFORE you start listening to this album, take the time to look at the artwork.

The sleeve which is part art deco and part Bauhaus and it tells you this is not just folk music but folk art, close to a library on disc.

There is a single strand which unites all the tracks on Ange Hardy's latest offering, Samuel Taylor Coleridge from where the title comes because, he often signed himself STC.

Hardy is a damn fine musician and knows how to combine folk culture and music in a way which makes you want to understand more of the feast she has lain before you. The Somerset-born artist opens with The Foster-Mother's Tale – the first offering from Coleridge she ever read and is very close to a shanty and features the immense talents of Steve Knightley and Lukas Drinkwater.

My Captain is the start of Hardy squeezing every ounce of understanding from The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. It's a light, almost hornpipe tune. The Curse Of A Dead Man's Eye begins with David Milton dramatically reading the beginning of The Rime.

Patsy Reid's violin playing is particularly worthy of note and Tamsin Rosewell orates Kubla Khan with the atmospheric music added by Hardy and Kate Rouse on dulcimer. It will be a big surprise if Esteese doesn't figure in the rounds of annual folk awards purely for the amount of work, time and effort Hardy has obviously put into this project.



Ange Hardy whose new album is inspired by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Gary O'Dea
Fly

This is a pretty laid back album which has that quality of being able to enjoy the songs no matter what mood you are in, which is testament to the art of songwriting and music making Gary O'Dea possesses.

The opening track Angel sets the mood perfectly with O'Dea sounding a little like John Meloncamp but with a more chilled out acoustic sound on his guitar. All the tracks are O'Dea's own work except Take The Money and Run where he collaborated with Garry Oliver.

O'Dea from Tipton is another talent the Midlands can be proud of, although his sound is seriously chilled out that doesn't mean it is bland or lacks any depth of emotion, nothing could be further from the truth.

There are a great many musical influences which come out and the almost under-produced sound using the skills of Eddy Morton give this album a rawness which you associate with the folk singers of the Sixties.

Megan Henwood
Head Heart Hand

This is a seriously cool album from a seriously cool artist. While it's not what you would call a traditional or exclusively folk album, there is enough in there to keep folkies' interest.

However, also crammed into this impressive collection of songs is country, blues, soul and anything else Megan Henwood chooses to throw into the mix, and believe it, she has shoe-horned a lot into this album.

Ma Polaine's Great Decline
Got Me Out Of Hell

Do not listen to this album on your own or if you are of a nervous disposition. However, if you like music that's decadent, indulgent, on the wrong side of the edge of darkness, a bit sinister and ever so slightly wanton then light a candle and be prepared to be drawn into the world of Ma Polaine's Great Decline.

Beth Packer has an incredibly distinctive voice. Her style means every time she opens her mouth a complete story unfolds from her lips.

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Wedding Checklist



18 Months

- ☐ Announce your engagement!
- ☐ Talk about the kind of day you'd like
- ☐ Choose the type of ceremony you'd like
- ☐ Set your budget (and start saving)
- ☐ Look at venue ideas
- ☐ Start your fitness and diet plan now

12 Months

- ☐ Set a wedding date
- ☐ Choose bridesmaids and ask them
- ☐ Compile a guest list
- ☐ Book the registrar and time of ceremony
- ☐ Start a scrapbook
- ☐ Book a photographer
- ☐ Start looking for the perfect dress

9 Months

- ☐ Visit/book your venue
- ☐ Order your dress
- ☐ Book the florist
- ☐ Order the cake
- ☐ Buy your stationery
- ☐ Think about your hair

6 Months

- ☐ Book transport
- ☐ Choose the bridesmaid's dresses
- ☐ Choose men's outfits
- ☐ Book the honeymoon
- ☐ Have a dress fitting
- ☐ Find a hairdresser & makeup artist
- ☐ Select your readings

3 Months

- ☐ Buy the wedding rings
- ☐ Send out invitations
- ☐ Choose and order wedding favors
- ☐ Have a makeup and hair trial
- ☐ Buy wedding lingerie
- ☐ Book your first night accommodation
- ☐ Create a seating plan

2 Months

- ☐ Choose your music
- ☐ Make a gift list
- ☐ Finalise the seating plan
- ☐ Confirm the registry office booking

Make sure you've got everything covered with our essential tick list

1 Month

- ☐ Write your vows
- ☐ Hold hen & stag do
- ☐ Have final dress fittings
- ☐ Organise place cards

2 Weeks

- ☐ Talk to your photographer
- ☐ Buy thank you gifts for wedding party

1 Week

- ☐ Have all beauty treatments
- ☐ Confirm times & numbers with venue & caterers
- ☐ Have a wedding rehearsal
- ☐ Arrange cake to be delivered

Start to relax and enjoy!

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Weddings

If you're newly engaged, then congratulations - you're at the beginning of a very exciting journey to becoming Mr & Mrs and if your big day is fast approaching, then hopefully we have a few ideas, hints and tips to help you along your way.

Trying on dress after dress is half of the fun, then there's hair, beauty, flowers, chair covers, chauffeur driven cars, wedding cake even doves. After all that planning is done, you'll definitely be in need of a break.



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Don't miss Sunday's Wedding Fayre at The George Hotel in Lichfield!

If you are involved in the planning of a wedding you should make a date to visit The George Hotel's Wedding Fayre this Sunday, 13th September. From 11am until 3pm you'll be able to meet the experts from a wide range of businesses all under one roof and all ready to inspire you with ideas for flowers, photographs, cakes, wedding dresses, menswear, wedding cars, chair covers, photo booths, jewellery, entertainment, bridal beauty and decorations - all essential to the perfect wedding. The George's experienced wedding co-ordinators will also be on hand at the Wedding Fayre to show you around the rooms and advise you on menu selections, costs and availability. Plus, every bride who attends

the Fayre will be entered into a draw to win £100 to spend with one of the exhibitors! The George is set in Lichfield city centre and offers an elegant setting for wedding receptions and civil ceremonies of up to 90 guests (evening receptions of up to 110 guests). **All Inclusive Wedding Packages only £3,800 in 2015 & 2016!** The George's All-Inclusive Wedding Package is just £3,800 in 2015 & 16, which includes a three course meal, an evening buffet (based on 50 guests and an additional 30 evening guests), a double room for the newly weds and much, much more! You can take a look at The George's wedding photo gallery at www.thegeorgelichfield.co.uk





Wedding Fayre

Sunday 13th September, from 11am to 3pm

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Special Events

To see the full calendar of events visit
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Jazz Sunday Lunch Sunday 20th September

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Intimate Theatre presents Henrik Ibsen's **Hedda Gabler**
Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th October at 7:30pm
Hedda Gabler is an aristocratic woman nearly devoid of redeeming virtues. Manipulation of her husband and an earlier admirer lead her down a destructive path. **£9.25 per person.**



Disney Character Party
Sunday 18th October, 3 - 5.30pm
Meet your favourite Disney characters including Elsa and Anna, Belle, Tinkerbell, Minnie & Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck. **Children: £7, Adults: Free (1 adult per child)**



Christmas Flower Arranging
24th & 25th November and 1st & 2nd December
Stunning yet simple ideas for decorating your home at Christmas. **£23 per person, includes carvery lunch & coffee.**



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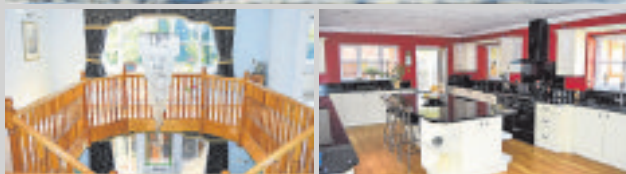
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EPC C



£490,000

- Executive Detached Property
- Six Bedrooms
- Five En-Suites
- Three Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen/Family Room
- Three Dressing Rooms
- Double Garage
- Viewing Recommended

Daisy Bank, Hednesford 01543 406302



EPC D

£230,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- En-Suite Shower Room

Chelford Close, Penkridge 01543 406302



EPC E

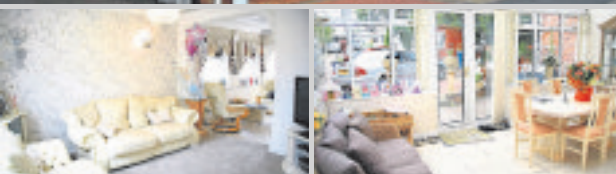
Offers Over £220,000

- Extended Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Kitchen Diner
- Utility Room

High Mount Street, Hednesford
01543 406302



EPC E



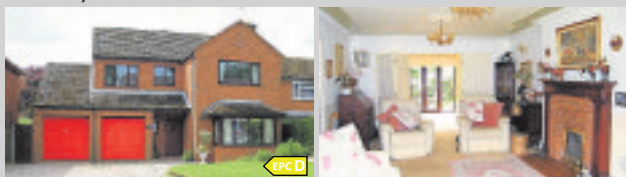
£400,000

NEW

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Timber Workshop
- Off Road Parking
- Detached Bungalow to the Rear
- Viewing Recommended

Chaseley Croft, Cannock

01543 406302



EPC D

£330,000

- Four Bedroom Detached Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Double Garage & Driveway
- Sought After Location
- Double Glazing
- Viewing Recommended

Capercaillie Drive, Heath Hayes 01543 406302



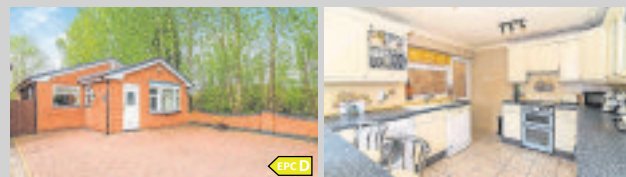
EPC C

£150,000

- Mid Terraced Townhouse
- Three Bedrooms
- En-Suite to Master Bedroom
- Garden & Garage

Woodfield Close, Norton Canes

01543 406302



EPC D

£190,000

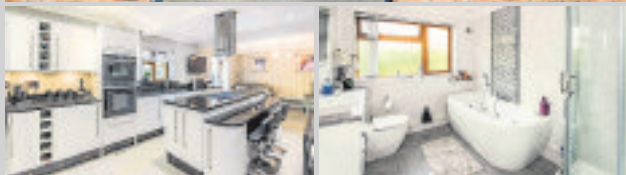
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
- Kitchen & Lounge/Diner
- Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Well Maintained Garden to Rear
- Call Branch for Details

Castlecroft, Norton Canes

01543 406302



EPC C



Offers Over £375,000

- Executive Five Bedroom Property
- Two En-Suites
- Conservatory & Double Garage
- Well Presented Throughout
- Executive Development
- Modern Re-fitted Kitchen
- Landscaped Garden
- No Chain

Heath Street, Hednesford 01543 406302



EPC D

£136,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory & Utility Room
- Off Road Parking

Belt Road, Hednesford 01543 406302



EPC D

£120,000

- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge & Kitchen Diner
- Family Bathroom

Beech Tree Lane, Cannock

01543 406302



EPC E



£275,000

- Charming Character Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen Diner with Log Burner
- Family Bathroom
- Town Centre Location
- Off Road Parking
- Viewing Highly Recommended

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NO CHAIN

Burntwood



Deerfold Crescent

A superbly spacious four bedroom semi-detached dorma style family home, GCH, DG, Entrance hallway, Downstairs wet room, L shaped lounge/Diner, Kitchen, shower room, beautiful enclosed rear garden, garage, ORP

£180,000

NEW

NORTON CANES



Burntwood Road

A well presented two bedroom semi-detached property, GCH, DG, Hallway, Lounge, Guest W.C, Open plan fitted Kitchen, Utility, Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms, Conservatory, Superb rear garden, Ample Parking

£134,950

NEW

Chase Terrace



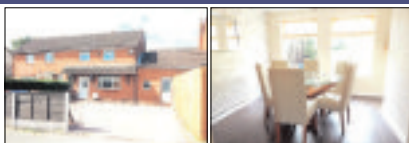
School Wlax

• A beautifully upgraded three bedroom semi-detached family home. GCH, DG, hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen/diner, re-fitted bathroom, 3 bedrooms, garage, rear garden and ample parking.

£165,000

NEW

Chasetown



Oakdene Road

An extended four bedroom link semi-detached property, GCH, DG, Hallway, Fitted kitchen, Dining room, Lounge, Four bedrooms, Fitted bathroom, Fore & rear gardens.

£157,500

NEW

BURNTWOOD



Woodland Way

A three bedroom mid terraced property, GCH, DG, Kitchen/ Diner, Lounge, Conservatory, Three bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear garden, garage in separate block, off road parking, No onward chain

115,000

NEW

BURNTWOOD



Cedar Road

• A Well Presented One Double Bedroom Ground Floor

Maisonette Offered With No Onward Chain. GCH, DG, porch, hall, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, fore & rear gardens and parking

£82,500

NEW & SOLD

Chase Town



Meadway Street

• A Beautifully Presented Three Bedroom Mid-Terraced Property, GCH, DG, Fitted Kitchen, Study Area, Spacious & Extended Lounge/Diner, Family Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden, Garage Space

£129,950

NEW

CHASE TERRACE



Bridge Cross Road

• An extended three bedroom semi-detached home • GCH, DG, hall, lounge, breakfast kitchen, downstairs bathroom, tandem garage with extra storage, three bedrooms and an enclosed rear garden.

£142,500

NO CHAIN

CHASE TERRACE



Princess Street

• An extended three bedroom traditional semi-detached family home. GCH, DG, porch, hall, spacious lounge/dining room, extended kitchen, bathroom, garage and fore & rear gardens 6 months service and maintenance charges paid

£145,000

PARKING

NORTON CANES



Brownhills Road

• A modern two bedroom semi-detached property, newly fitted Logic boiler, D/G, hallway, guest W.C, lounge, two bedrooms, bathroom, rear garden and private rear parking.

£110,000

CHAIN FREE

CHASE TERRACE



Biddulph Park

A Well Presented Two Bedroom Detached Park Home Offered With No Onward Chain, 6 months service and maintenance fees paid Gas Heating System, DG, Hallway

£79,950

NEW

BURNTWOOD



Fairford Gardens

An extended three bedroom semi-detached property set in a cul-de-sac location, GCH, DG, Entrance hallway, Fitted kitchen, Spacious lounge, Utility Room, Garage, ORP, Enclosed rear garden

£170,000

NEW

HEDNESFORD



Meadowbrook Close

• An immaculately presented two bedroom ground floor apartment. GCH, DG, Hall, superb open plan kitchen/ lounge/dining area, two bedrooms, en-suite, bathroom and parking.

£99,950

NO CHAIN

WEDNESBURY



Broadwaters Road

• A four bedroom semi-detached property with en-suite and converted garage. GCH, DG, porch, hall, guest W.C, lounge, kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom and parking

£140,000

NEW

NORTON CANES



Poplar Street

• A three bedroom, three storey modern detached family home offered with no onward chain. GCH, DG, hall, lounge, conservatory, guest W.C, three bedrooms, bathroom, rear garden and parking.

£147,500

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£97,500



CHASESIDE DRIVE, RUGELEY

No Onward Chain Entrance Hallway Lounge/Dining Room Breakfast Kitchen Conservatory Guest w.c., Master Bedroom with En-suite shower rooms Two Further Bedrooms Family Bathroom Low maintenance Front and Rear Gardens Garage and Driveway

£205,000



THE LAURELS, BRERETON

Small Scheme Managed Development Covered Porch And Entrance Hallway Spacious Rear Aspect Lounge Breakfast Kitchen Two Double Bedrooms Modern Shower Room Recently Replaced Full Gas Central Heating System Including New Boiler Sunny Rear Garden Level Frontage Offering Easy Wheelchair Access Direct To Property Ample Residence & Visitors Parking

£115,000



HILLWAY CLOSE, RUGELEY

Good Sized Link Detached Family Home Quiet Cul-De-Sac Well Presented Porch Lounge Dining Kitchen Three Bedrooms Family Bathroom Garage and Driveway Front and Rear Gardens uPVC Double Glazing Gas Central Heating Close to Primary and High Schools Rugeley Town Centre and All Local Amenities

£154,950



BRERETON MANOR COURT, BRERETON

Grade II Listed Property Three Story Full of Character Hallway Lounge Guest Cloakroom to Ground Floor Dining Kitchen Bathroom to First Floor Two Bedrooms To Second Floor Immaculate Cottage Garden Garage and Parking Easy Commute to Lichfield and Stafford Close to Cannock Chase Easy Walking Distance of Local Amenities and Primary School

£139,950



GREEN LANE, RUGELEY

Traditional Home Hallway Lounge/Dining Room Breakfast Kitchen Ground Floor Bathroom Three Bedrooms Front and Low Maintenance Rear Garden uPVC double glazing & Gas Central Heating Within Easy Walking Distance Of Rugeley Town Centre And All Amenities No Onward Chain Must Be Viewed To Fully Appreciate The Condition And Potential

£124,950



THE LAURELS, BRERETON

●MINIMUM AGE 55● Individually Designed Very Well Presented Bungalow Scheme Managed Development Lounge/Dining Room Kitchen Two Bedrooms Refitted Shower Room Parking Gas Central Heating Small Beautifully Maintained Development

£119,000



ROWLEY CLOSE, BRERETON

Well Presented Quiet Cul-De-Sac Location End Terrace Entrance Hall Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen Dining Room Utility Family Bathroom Four Bedrooms uPVC Double Glazing Gas Central Heating Ample Parking Large Garden Outside w.c. and Brick Storage Building

£134,950

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LANDYWOOD LANE, GREAT WYRLEY



- Detached Industria Unit
- Approx 8,336 sq ft
- Overhead Crane
- Minimum Eaves Height 5.4m
- Service Yard & Car Parking
- EPC Awaited

PRICE: £330,000. RENT: £30,000 pax REF: BP/1634

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 5 TRENT BUSINESS PARK, RUGELEY



- Modern Specification Unit
- Estate Road Frontage
- Approx 6,225 sq ft
- Minimum Eaves Height 5.5m
- Service Yard
- EPC Rating D-78

RENT: £25,000 pax plus VAT Ref: BP/1664/ELH

RETAIL

MARKET STREET, HEDNESFORD



- Ground Floor Retail Premises
- Approx 1,071 sq ft
- Prominent Corner Position
- Suitable for A1 & A2 Usage
- EPC Awaited

RENT: £18,000 pax REF: BP/1666/AWH

OFFICES

COMMERCE HOUSE, RIDINGS PARK, CANNOCK



- LAST REMAINING SUITE
- Approx 1,300 sq ft
- Passenger Lift, WCs, Kitchen Area
- Allocated Car Parking
- Flexible Terms
- EPC Awaited

RENT: Price on Application REF: BP/123/KMC

OFFICES

IVY HOUSE, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, CANNOCK



- Opportunity to Acquire Historic Building
- NIA 6,812 sq ft
- Site Area Approx 0.75 acres
- Suitable for a Variety of Uses STP
- EPC Rated D-84

PRICE: Offers Over £400,000 REF: BP/1658/KMC

INDUSTRIAL

TOWERS BUSINESS PARK, RUGELEY



- Modern Specification Units
- From Approx 1,663 sq ft to 3,326 sq ft
- Three Phase Electricity
- Minimum Eaves Height 5.5m
- EPC Rating D-88/D89

RENT: From: £7,500 pax plus VAT REF: BP/1593/AWH

RETAIL

GREENHEATH ROAD, HEDNESFORD



- Detached Property
- Retail Area, Stores, Offices, Kitchen & WC Facilities
- Suitable for Various Uses Subject to Planning Permission
- GIA 5,200 sq ft
- EPC Rating C-75

RENT: £20,000 pax REF: BP/1639/KMC

TRADE COUNTER/ROADSIDE UNIT

BRINDLEYS BUSINESS PARK, CANNOCK



- Suitable for Roadside/Trade Counter Use STP
- Approximately 8,243 sq ft (765.8 sq m)
- Benefits from 3 Roller Shutter Access
- Shared Access Yard and Car Parking
- Available December 2015
- EPC Rated C-63

RENT: On Application REF: BP/1661/AWH

OFFICES

HERITAGE PARK, EASTERN WAY, CANNOCK



- From 1,749 sq ft (162 sq m) up to 4,055 sq ft (377 sq m)
- Individual buildings provide own front door access, wc and kitchen facilities
- Gas fired central heating
- Perimeter trunking
- EPC Rated: B42-C-54

PRICE: From £175,000. REF: BP/1420/ELH

OFFICES

HEMLOCK WAY, HAWKS GREEN, CANNOCK



- Offices From 161 sq ft up to 315 sq ft
- Ground & First Floor Offices
- Short Term Basis
- Inclusive Rents
- Allocated Car Parking
- EPC Rating C-62/D-79

RENT: From £161 pcm REF: BP/HEM/AWH

INDUSTRIAL

15 MORGANS BUSINESS PARK, NORTON CANES



- Unit Approx 3,498 sq ft
- Minimum Eaves Height 5.5m
- Suitable for Trade Type Uses
- Prominent Frontage to Walsall Road (B4154)
- EPC Rated - C-73

RENT: From £4.50 per sq ft pax plus VAT

INDUSTRIAL

UNIT 6 BRINDLEYS BUSINESS PARK



- Modern Purpose Built Unit
- Approx 2,447 sq ft
- End of Terrace
- Office and WC Facilities
- EPC Rating C-68

RENT: £11,000 pax. REF: BP/1594/AWH

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Prog god

Ian Anderson's Jethro
Tull Opera – Page 77



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24 Oct	Charlie & Choc Factory/Bend it Like Beckham
31 Oct	Lion King/Matilda
14 Nov	Memphis/Jersey Boys/Elf
21 Nov	Wicked/Carole King's Beautiful

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Wolf Alice



Thursday (Sep17), 7pm
Institute, B'ham

Alternative indie rockers Wolf Alice will be the headline act at the Institute in Birmingham on Thursday. Supporting them on the bill are Dreng and Made Violet.
 Visit theinstitutebirmingham.com

POP & ROCK

Jethro Tull The Rock Opera
Performed By Ian Anderson
 Fri at 7.30pm - 11pm,
 £28 - £32
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
 B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Valous
 Sat at 7pm, £6.60
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms
 WV1 1RQ.
 Call 0870 320 7000

Tom Mann
 Sun at 4pm, £11
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms
 WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

EoE
 Fri at 6pm, £7
 O2 Academy Birmingham,
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

The Modfathers: Paul Weller
Tribute
 Sat at 7pm - 11pm, £8 - £10
 O2 Academy Birmingham,
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Labour Of Love: UB40 Tribute
 Sat at 7.30pm, £8
 The River Rooms, Stourbridge,
 DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Gene Pitney Tribute
 Sat at 7.30pm, £19.50
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
 Call 01543 412121

The Manfreds
 Sat at 7.30pm,
 £19.50 - £20.50
 Palace Theatre, Redditch,
 B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

Benji Kirkpatrick: Jimi Hendrix
Tribute
 Sat at 8pm, £11 - £13
 mac, Cannon Hill Road,
 Birmingham, B12 9QH.
 Call 0121 446 3232

SuperSonic 70s Show
 Sat at 8pm, £18.50
 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
 Call 01527 577330

Tribute In The Park '15
 Sat at 12pm - 11.30pm,
 £10 - £20
 Wolverhampton Racecourse,
 WV6 0PE. Call 01902 390000

OPM
 Thu at 8pm - 1am,
 The Boars Head,
 Kidderminster, DY10 1EW.
 Call 01562 861870

Girlpool
 Fri at 8pm, £8
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
 Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
 Call 0844 870 0000

Wand
 Sat at 7pm, £10
 The Rainbow, Digbeth,
 Birmingham, B12 0LD.
 Call 0121 753 1818

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Grand Theatre, W'ton

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The Sword
 Thu at 7pm, £14
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,
 WV1 1RQ.
 Call 0870 320 7000

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Specials & Madness Tribute
 Sat at 7pm, £8
 The RoadHouse Birmingham,
 B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

Richard Thompson Electric Trio
 Sun at 7.30pm, £28.50
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
 B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Dog Fashion Disco VS Psychostick
 Tue at 12am,
 Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,
 WV1 1RQ.
 Call 0870 320 7000

King Crimson
 Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm,
 £39.50 - £65
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
 B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Whitesnake UK
 Fri at 7pm £10/£12
 Robin 2, Bilston,
 Wolverhampton
 WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Dirty DC (AC/DC tribute)
 Sat at 7pm, £11/£13
 Robin 2, Bilston,
 Wolverhampton
 WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Si Cranstoun
 Sun at 7pm, £14/£15
 Robin 2, Bilston,
 Wolverhampton
 WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Ezio
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 Robin 2, Bilston, Wolverhampton
 WV14 7LJ.
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 Robin 2, Bilston, Wolverhampton
 WV14 7LJ.
 Call 01902 401211

Wolf Alice
 Thu at 7pm, £14
 The Institute, Digbeth,
 Birmingham, B5 6DY.
 Call 0121 643 0428

JAZZ & SOUL

Martinique Jazz Band
 Sun at 2pm - 6pm,
 Haden Hill House Museum,
 Cradley Heath, B64 7JU.
 Call 01384 569444

The Magic Of Motown
 Sun at 7.30pm, £24.50
 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
 WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Tribute In The Park '15



Saturday, from 12 noon
Wolverhampton Racecourse

A feast of tribute acts will grace the stage of Tribute In The Park this weekend. The bill includes Blur, The Kaiser Chiefs (pictured), Coldplace and Queen Act QE2.
 Visit wolverhampton-racecourse.co.uk

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Nathan Carter
 Tue at 7.30pm, £24
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
 Call 01543 412121

Irish Music Session
 Wed at 8pm,
 Katie Fitzgerald's, Stourbridge,
 DY8 3TB. Call 01384 374410

Open Mic Night
 Mon at 8.30pm, Free
 Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston,
 Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.
 Call 01384 374410

Luke Concannon
 Wed at 7.30pm - 11pm,
 £5 - £8
 Hare & Hounds, 1Kings Heath,
 Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
 Call 0844 870 0000

John Doyle
 Sun at 7.30pm - 10.30pm,
 £10
 Kitchen Garden Cafe, King's
 Heath, Birmingham, B14 7SA.
 Call 0121 443 4725

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Nights On Broadway: The Bee
Gees Tribute
 Fri at 7.30pm, £20 - £22.40
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
 Call 01543 412121

Musical Picnic: Little Wolf Gang
 Sat at 10.30am - 12pm, Free
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
 B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Royal Danish Orchestra
Performs Nielsen
 Wed at 7.30pm - 10pm,
 £9.50 - £45
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
 B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Battle Of Britain Concert
 Sun at 2pm, £5
 Royal Air Force Museum,
 Cosford, Shifnal, TF11 8UP.
 Call 01902 376200

THEATRE

Luke Jermay: Sixth Sense
 Sat at 8pm, £14.50 - £16.50
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
 ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Distance
 Tue at 7.30pm - 8.45pm, Wed at 7.30pm - 8.45pm, Thu at 7.30pm - 8.45pm, £12
 mac, Cannon Hill Road,
 Birmingham, B12 9QH.
 Call 0121 446 3232

Godspell: Pinpoint Productions
 Thu at 7.30pm, £12 - £14
 Palace Theatre, Alcester Street,
 Redditch, B98 8AE.
 Call 01527 65203

Luke Jermah



Saturday, 8pm
Stafford Gatehouse

The audience is promised an "amazing" show as Jermay displays mind-reading trickery: From your favourite teacher to the colour of your underwear, Jermay knows.
www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk

Alan Carr: Yap, Yap, Yap!
 Fri at 8pm - 9.50pm, Sat at 8pm - 9.50pm, £30
 Birmingham Hippodrome,
 B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Comedy Carousel & Real Food
Canteen
 Thu at 7pm - 11pm,
 £5 - £19.50
 The Glee Club, Birmingham,
 B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

TALKS

An Insight Into The Rich
Anglican Heritage Of Worship At
Birmingham Cathedral By The Dean
 Tue at 5.15pm, Free
 Birmingham Cathedral, B3 2QB.
 Call 0121 262 1840

House Steward: The
Pre-Raphaelites: Sex Drugs And
Poetry (Over 18s)
 Thu at 7pm - 8.45pm, £15
 Wightwick Manor and Gardens,
 Wolverhampton, WV6 8EE.
 Call 01902 760100

James Holland: The Battle Of
Britain: Myth And Reality
 Sun at 11am, £5
 Royal Air Force Museum,
 Cosford, Shifnal, TF11 8UP.
 Call 01902 376200

Colin Fry: The Sixth Sense
Anniversary Tour - CANCELLED
 Sat at 7.30pm,
 Wolverhampton Civic Hall.
 Call 0870 320 7000

OTHER EVENTS

Mind Body Spirit Festival
 Fri at 12am, Sat at 12am, Sun at 12am, £9
 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.
 Call 0121 780 4141

BPM
 Sat at 11am - 5pm, Sun at 11am - 5pm, 5pm, Mon at 11am - 5pm, £15 - £20
 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.
 Call 0121 780 4141

The Alternative & Burlesque Fair
 Sat at 11am - 5pm, £6
 The Institute, Digbeth,
 Birmingham, B5 6DY.
 Call 0121 643 0428

The Cruise Show - Birmingham
 Sat at 10am - 5pm, Sun at 10am - 4pm, £6 - £10
 The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.
 Call 0121 780 4141

Heritage Open Day
 Fri at 12am, Free
 Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings, Buntsford Hill,
 Bromsgrove, B60 4JR.
 Call 01527 831363

Sat at 11am - 5pm, Free
 Moseley Old Hall, Fordhouses,
 Wolverhampton, WV10 7HY.
 Call 01902 782808

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Rockers forged in the Black Country



Ice cool and ready to launch their debut album — Black Country rock band EofE with singer Tom Harris centre

BLACK Country five-piece EofE have unveiled a dramatic video for their brand new single 'Get Caught', ahead of the release of their highly-anticipated self-titled debut album on October 9.

The video includes band performance shots cut with a dark storyline featuring lust and violence. The video can be seen at www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUfd_qmRp1U

After a prolific year of relentless touring and three singles, Dudley band EofE have become one of the most hotly-tipped newcomers with their thunderous brand of pop rock and are in concert tomorrow night (Fri) at Birmingham 02 Academy.

The album brings the most out of Tom Harris's extraordinary vocal range, making it a truly special debut record and a marker in the sand for new, upcoming British rock bands. Already being compared to the likes of You Me At Six, Young Guns and

Mallory Knox, this is the perfect statement of intent.

The past few months have seen EofE's status grow and grow, with storming sets at The Great Escape, Camden Rocks and Download Festival. The band have also paid their dues on the road touring with UK Brit-metallers Glamour Of The Kill and headlining dozens of their own shows.

With their debut album about to drop, EofE are ready to smash through the doors of British rock.



Ian hops in for Tull opera

PROGRESSIVE Rock pioneer Ian Anderson, front man of Jethro Tull, is bringing Jethro Tull – The Rock Opera to Symphony Hall, Birmingham, tomorrow (Fri), one of only six UK dates. The rock opera honours the 18th Century English agriculturalist that the band was named after back in 1968.

The shows tell the story of the original Tull's life, reimagined as if in the near future and illustrated with Anderson's best-known material from the rock band's repertoire.

The set will include many songs that Anderson found to be natural parallels with Tull's life story, including Wind Up, Heavy Horses, Aqualung, Back to the Family, Farm on the Freeway and Songs from the Wood to name a few.

Some songs have been incorporated with revised lyrics and five newly written songs have been added.

Performing with Anderson will be David Goodier on bass, John O'Hara on keyboards, Florian Opahle on guitar, Scott Hammond on drums plus some 'virtual guests' on a large HD video screen.

Anderson explains: "Instead of spoken introductions to the songs in the show, there will be the use of that operatic device the 'recitative', where the links are made by short sung vocal segments, making it a little easier and more entertaining."

Meanwhile, acclaimed singer, songwriter and guitarist Richard Thompson brings his Electric Trio to Symphony Hall on Sunday. Fellow prog rockers King Crimson, featuring guitarist Robert Fripp, play the Symphony Hall on Monday and Tuesday. See www.thsh.co.uk or call 0121 345 0600.

'The links are made by short sung segments'

Rock and rolling Robin at concert

A 'HARD-DRIVING' country flavoured rock and roll legend is set to play in the Black Country.

Steve Gibbons will be at Bilston's Robin 2 venue on Thursday, September 17, where he will be performing classic Steve Gibbons Band tunes including his major hit Tulane.

The Birmingham musician has been a stalwart of the Midlands music scene since the early 1960s and has put out 14 albums, selling more than one million copies.

Tickets are £15 on the door, or £12.50 in advance, and are available from the box office on 01902 401211, or via www.therobin.co.uk website. Support from singer/songwriter Pete Boddiss.

It's a royal role for Jesus star Powell

A PLAY that ponders how Prince Charles might rule is staged at Birmingham Repertory Theatre until September 19.

King Charles III features Robert Powell in the lead role. It centres on the prince ascending to the throne, following a lifetime of waiting and he has to decide how to rule. Mike Bartlett's Olivier Award-winning play, staged by leading director Rupert Goold, enjoyed critical acclaim in its London run.

Powell is well known to theatre fans and his TV credits include The Detectives and Holby City. He is most remembered for portraying the Son of God in Franco Zeffirelli's 1977 TV movie Jesus Of Nazareth.

Mac DeMarco and Wolf Alice on way

CANADIAN singer/songwriter Mac DeMarco is at The Institute in Birmingham tonight (Thu). American psych band Wand play The Rainbow in Digbeth on Saturday, following the release of the hard-riffing LA quartet's potent second album Golem earlier this year. That's the night after Brother & Bones play the Rainbow.

Ex-Bottlemen guitarist Billy Bibby is at the Sunflower Lounge in Birmingham on Wednesday. Camden Town's Wolf Alice play The Institute on Thursday, September 17, after making one of the albums of the year with their debut My Love is Cool. Support from Drengé.

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Thursday 1st October
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Seating arrangements inside the restaurant



Total choc-fest – the chocolate torte with cherries, one of the puds



Ye Olde Toll House in Willenhall

Minor grumbles, but food hit the spot at Ye Olde Toll House

YE Olde Toll House, in Willenhall is a comforting little venue with huge beams supporting the ceilings and where the rooms nicely furnished and lit.

We were ushered into the bar area on to huge, soft sofas where we ordered drinks and browsed menus before ordering our food and heading to our table.

There are set price options if you want to stick to a budget, or you can pick and choose from the à la carte lists or specials boards – which featured a host of fish dishes. And it's worth noting that Ye Olde Toll House has a separate veggie menu.

It was a pretty busy evening for midweek but the wait on the food was very short.

My first friend chose the pan fried pigeon breast with black pudding mousse, sautéed wild mushrooms and pancetta crisps, which

By Leigh Sanders

went down pretty well. My other friend went for the garlic and herb-baked king prawns with toasted ciabatta. The prawns were almost perfect with the flavours going down a storm.

I opted for the crispy pork belly with stir-fried vegetables and toasted sesame seeds. The flavours were gorgeous and the differing textures of the pork were nice on the palate. The vegetables were difficult to get out of the decorative, unusually-shaped bowl, though.

So onto round two. And just as with the starters, they proved a treat. The pan-fried duck breast was next for one friend. It came with a healthy portion of dauphinoise potatoes, fried wild mushrooms and a sloe gin and redcurrant sauce. 'Beautiful' was the adjective used to describe the duck and

there was a thumbs-up for the jus, but he said the peppercorns in the sauce confused things and added an unnecessary crunch.

My female pal ordered from the vegetarian menu – the stilton and spinach linguine with side salad and garlic bread. It arrived with very cute mini ciabattas rather than a hefty helping of pasta and ended up defeating her anyway.

The flavour of the stilton was praised as it added a kick that offset the mushrooms nicely. The wilted spinach was noticeable too as it added bite. The side salad was largely ignored due to the pasta portion.

I chose from the grill menu – an 8oz sirloin steak with baked tomato, roast field mushroom, peas and hand cut chips. I added a peppercorn and brandy sauce. The steak was cooked beautifully and tasted great. It cut easily and had just enough chew with-

out being tough and dry. The sauce was thick and flavoursome, while the crunchy skin of the chips was a delight.

Despite the amount we'd already eaten we weren't quite done yet as we decided desserts would be a great idea.

My mate chose the chocolate torte with cherry ice cream and amaretto cherries – 'banging' was his verdict. The pastry, too, got full marks. Friend two chose the lemon curd cheesecake, served in a wine glass. She was a little disappointed as she felt it was more of a mousse than a cheesecake.

I had a piping hot apple strudel. The pastry was crisp and snapped when cut into and the apple chunks were large and sweet – softened by the vanilla custard.

A couple of grumbles with the food and the lack of checking up on us by staff had not dampened our evening and we smiled in satisfaction at our evening meals.

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CHOICE



David Benson-Phillips

Pointless Celebrities (BBC1, 7.20pm) Alexander Armstrong presents the general knowledge quiz as famous faces from children's television programmes take part. This edition features CBBC presenters Anthea Turner and Andy Crane, CBeebies stars Justin Fletcher and Gemma Hunt, children's TV hosts Dave Benson-Phillips and Gareth Jones, and former presenters Sally James and Geoffrey Hayes. The famous faces try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. Co-host Richard Osman has all the answers.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Athletics. 2.00 Live Athletics: Great North CityGames. The Great North CityGames. 4.00 Final Score. 5.10 Film: Kung Fu Panda. (2008) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jack Black. 6.30 **Now You See It.** The best and worst of the magic world, featuring incredible performances from across the globe as well as tricks going wrong. 7.00 **BBC News.** 7.10 **Regional Programme.** 7.20 **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong presents the general knowledge quiz as famous faces from children's television programmes take part. This edition features CBBC presenters Anthea Turner and Andy Crane, CBeebies stars Justin Fletcher and Gemma Hunt, children's TV hosts Dave Benson-Phillips and Gareth Jones, and former presenters Sally James and Geoffrey Hayes. The famous faces try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. Co-host Richard Osman has all the answers. 8.10 **The National Lottery: In It to Win It.** New series. Dale Winton hosts the quiz show in which five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Includes the National Lottery draw with a performance by Leona Lewis. 9.00 **Last Night of the Proms: Part Two.** Katie Derham presents live from the Royal Albert Hall, as the Proms season reaches the grand finale of its 120th anniversary year. Soloists tenor Jonas Kaufmann, soprano Danielle de Niese and pianist Benjamin Grosvenor perform music by Gershwin, Lehar and James P Johnson, and Marin Alsop conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and the BBC singers. 10.30 **BBC News.** Weather. 10.50 **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester United v Liverpool; National Lottery Update. 11.15 **Weather for the Week Ahead.** 12.20 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Film: Hue and Cry. (1947) 7.25 **Film:** Wonder Man. (1945) 9.00 The Women's Football Show. (R) 9.30 Animal Park. (R) 10.00 More Creatures Great and Small. (R) 10.30 More Creatures Great and Small. (R) 11.00 Labour Leadership: The Result. 12.00 Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) 12.30 Great British Menu. (R) 1.00 Great British Menu. (R) 1.30 Great British Menu. (R) 2.00 Live Golf: Walker Cup. The opening day from Royal Lytham & St Annes Golf Club. 6.45 **Dad's Army.** The platoon rescues the verger from being carried away by a barrage balloon and the men take it off to the woods to secure it to a tree. Unfortunately they let go of the ropes too early and it floats off - taking Captain Mainwaring with it. Classic comedy first broadcast in 1969, starring Arthur Lowe, John Laurie, John Le Mesurier and Clive Dunn. (R) 7.15 **Last Night of the Proms: Part One.** Katie Derham presents the final concert of the 2015 Proms season live at the Royal Albert Hall. After her successful debut in 2013, conductor Marin Alsop returns to lead the celebrations, where musicians including tenor Jonas Kaufmann, the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, the BBC singers, and pianist Benjamin Grosvenor perform. 9.00 **Mock the Week.** The topical comedy show returns after an eight-week break, with Dara O'Brian, Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons joined by Josh Widdicombe, Katherine Ryan, Milton Jones and Ed Gamble to give their irreverent takes on the biggest stories to hit the headlines, through stand-up spots and improvised games. (R) 9.30 **Cradle to Grave.** Danny has a few lessons in biology, both at school and in the bedroom, while his parents Bet and Fred expand their horizons with wine, dancing and a caravan holiday. (R) 10.00 **Boy Meets Girl.** Leo and Judy are looking forward to a quiet Sunday lunch, only for their plans to be thwarted when their families turn up at the pub. Comedy, starring Harry Hepple. (R) 10.30 **Film: Defiance.** (2008) Second World War drama, starring Daniel Craig and Jamie Bell. 12.35 **Film: Primeval.** (2007) 2.05 This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.30 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.40 Dino Dan. (R) 6.55 Dino Dan. (R) 7.05 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.10 Sooty. (R) 7.25 Super 4. (R) 7.40 Adventure Time. 8.00 Marvel Avengers Assemble. 8.30 Fish Hooks. 8.45 Horrid Henry. 9.00 Jessie. 9.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.20 ITV News: Weather. 12.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 1.30 The Unforgettable Les Dawson. (R) 2.00 The Chase. (R) 3.00 The X Factor. (R) 4.15 Regional Programme: Weather. 4.30 ITV News: Weather. 4.45 Film: Back to the Future. (1985) 7.00 **Keep It in the Family.** Bradley Walsh hosts the game show in which two families, the Garaways and the Martins, go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds. Six reality TV stars, including Jason Gardiner, Robin Cousins, Jedward, Lisa Riley and Richard Arnold, face the drop as the teams decide whether to swap a prize, drop it or keep it in the family. Plus, a traditional Austrian dance troupe performs and a children's musical theatre group performs pieces from 'Sister Act', and, of course, the Nanus return. 8.00 **The X Factor.** Olly Murs and Caroline Flack host proceedings as the audition stages continue, as more hopeful contenders seek to win over the panel and secure a place at Boot Camp. Continues on ITV1 tomorrow at 8pm. 9.15 **Through the Keyhole.** American television presenter Jerry Springer. Strictly Come Dancing co-host Tess Daly and presenter of dating game show Take Me Out Paddy McGuinness make up this week's panel as Keith Lemon noses around the homes of mystery stars, rummaging through their most treasured possessions. With the help of the studio audience, the panelists use clues highlighted along each tour to work out which famous faces have agreed to hand over their house keys to the Celebrity Juice funnymen. 10.15 **ITV News:** Weather. 10.30 **Film: United 93.** (2006) Fact-based drama, with Christian Clemenson and Trish Gates. 12.30 **Jackpot247.** 3.00 Show Me the Telly. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.05 Great North Swim 2015. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.25 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 11.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 11.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 12.25 Come Dine with Me. (R) 12.55 Come Dine with Me. (R) 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Coverage of live racing from Doncaster and Chester. 4.05 Couples Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Couples Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.30 Channel 4 News. 6.00 **Location, Location, Location.** Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer guide more prospective property buyers through the complex world of viewings and agents. They begin in Cambridgeshire, where they help Chris and Louise find their dream home in a rural setting, while also looking at properties in Cambridge for a pair of doctors and first-time buyers. (R) 7.00 **Grand Designs.** Kevin McCloud meets Clinton Dall from Sussex, a self-made businessman and father of four aiming to build one of the largest homes ever featured on the show. (R) 8.00 **Our Guy in India.** Part two of two. Guy Martin climbs to the top of India's tallest building, visits a slum and experiences the arrival of the monsoons on his way to compete in Rider Mania. (R) 9.00 **It Was Alright in the 1980s.** Matt Lucas narrates another look back at TV shows from past decades, revisiting the time of revolution on the small screen in the 1980s. 10.00 **This is England '83 - '90.** In a recap for the new series, This is England '90, Shane Meadows invites viewers to take a look back at the characters introduced in 1983. 10.05 **Gogglebox.** The nation's favourite armchair critics return to share their opinions as to what's good and bad about the week's television. (R) 11.10 **Film: Chronicle.** (2012) Three teenagers develop superhuman abilities, but one of them is corrupted by his new-found power. Sci-fi thriller, starring Dane DeHaan and Michael B Jordan. 12.50 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) 1.45 **Film: Choke.** (2008) 3.15 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.25 1001 Things You Should Know. (R)

CHANNEL 5

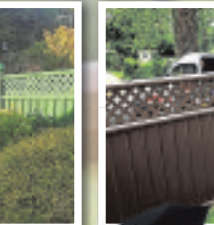
6.00 Milkshake! 9.20 SpongeBob SquarePants. 9.55 Cowboy Builders. (R) 10.50 Cowboy Builders. (R) 11.50 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.50 **Film:** Columbo: The Murder of a Rock Star. (1991) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Little Richard. 2.50 **Film:** Columbo: Murder - A Self Portrait. (1989) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. 4.40 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) 5.40 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) 6.30 **5 News Weekend.** 6.35 **Film: Firefox.** (1982) A former US Air Force pilot comes out of retirement for a top-secret mission - to go undercover behind the Iron Curtain and steal a hi-tech Soviet fighter plane that is invisible to radar and equipped with a thought-controlled weapons system. Cold War action adventure, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. With Freddie Jones, David Huffman and Warren Clarke. Edited for violence. 9.00 **Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, as well as all the goals from the Championship, League One and League Two, including Burnley v Sheffield Wednesday, Sheffield United v Bury, and Wycombe Wanderers v Plymouth Argyle. Plus, a round-up of the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers. 10.30 **Celebrity Big Brother.** The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt. 11.30 **Tattoo Disasters UK.** Featuring a man who hates his tattoo of his daughter, a driver whose tattoo was left half-finished, a blogger trying to have her tramp stamp removed, and a man covered in ink. (R) 12.00 **SuperCasino.** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. 3.10 **Celebrity Big Brother.** The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt. (R) 4.00 **Transporter: The Series.** Frank is tasked to pick up a priceless painting from a high-end Berlin art dealer and deliver it to a rich art collector.

DIGITAL

BBC Three 7.00 Don't Tell the Bride 8.00 Top Gear Bolivia Special 9.15 Film: Jarhead (2005) 11.10 Family Guy 1.30 Top Coppers 2.00 Fried 2.30 Fishbowl 2.55 Don't Tell the Bride 3.50 Close **BBC Four** 7.00 India's Frontier Railways 8.00 Natural World: Meet the Monkeys 9.00 Back 10.25 Being James Galtway 11.25 Definitely Dusty 12.25 The Story of Musicals 3.25 Close **ITV2** 11.35 The X Factor 12.50 The X Factor 1.50 You've Been Framed! 2.20 Catchphrase 3.05 Film: The Flintstones (1994) 4.50 Film: Legally Blonde 2: Red White and Blonde (2003) 6.55 Film: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) 9.15 The X Factor 10.15 Celebrity Juice 11.05 Safeword 12.30 Fake Reaction 1.15 Crazy Beaches 2.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.25 Animal Practice 2.50 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3** 1.00 Agatha Christie's Marple 5.05 Film: Columbo: Murder with Too Many Notes (2000) 7.00 Doc Martin 8.00 Lewis 10.00 A Touch of Frost 12.05 Wire in the Blood 1.30 On the Buses 2.00 Movies Now 2.05 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping **ITV4** 12.30 Storage Wars 1.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain Live 4.00 British Touring Car Championship Highlights 5.30 Storage Wars 6.00 Football Dream Debuts 7.00 Cycling 8.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain 9.00 Film: National Lampoon's European Vacation (1985) 11.00 Film: The Interpreter (2005) 1.35 Hogan's Heroes 2.00 Cycling 2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping **E4** 11.00 The Goldbergs 12.00 Made in Chelsea LA 1.00 Melissa & Joey 2.00 Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) 3.45 Rude(ish) Tube Shorts 4.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: Independence Day (1996) 10.50 Rude Tube 11.55 Bad Robots 12.30 The Big Bang Theory 1.25 Tattoos After Dark 2.25 2 Broke Girls 3.15 How I Met Your Mother 4.20 Suburgatory 5.05 Revenge **Film4** 11.00 Crooks in Cloisters (1964) 1.00 Marley and Me (2008) 3.15 Honey, I Shrunk the Kids (1989) 5.00 Leap Year (2010) 7.00 The Day the Earth Stood Still (2008) 9.00 This is England (2006) 11.10 Seven Psychopaths (2012) 1.20 The Crazies (2010) 3.30 Close

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CHOICE



Thomas Turgoose

This Is England '90 (Channel 4, 9pm)
New series. The third drama series following on from Shane Meadows' film, that moves the action forward to 1990. Woody is enjoying life as a stay-at-home father, while Lol comes into her own running a school kitchen. Harvey and Gadget spend their days in a drug-fuelled haze, Chrissie gets a girlfriend, Shaun is pining for Smell and a party holds unexpected outcomes for all of them. Andrew Ellis, Andrew Shim, Bethany Herbert, Billy Braithwait, Chanel Cresswell, Danielle Watson and Haris Salihovic star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.05** Match of the Day. (R) **8.30** The Andrew Marr Show. **9.30** Athletics: Great North Run. **1.30** BBC News: Weather. **1.45** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.15** Eat Well for Less? (R) **3.15** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **4.15** Points of View. **4.30** Lifetime. **4.40** Songs of Praise. **5.15** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **6.05** BBC News.
6.20 **Regional Programme.**
6.30 **Countryfile.** John Craven visits Britain's oldest Women's Institute group in Sussex and discovers the influence the organisation has had on rural life over the past 100 years. He also reports on the restoration of the gardens in Arts and Crafts property Standen House. Tom Heap investigates fears over fracking, Adam Henson and Charlotte Smith meet contestants for One Man and His Dog, and Matt Baker launches a fundraising event for Children in Need. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
7.30 **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents a special compilation of highlights from the series connected to the Queen, including her appearance on the show at Hillsborough Castle in 2014.
8.30 **An Inspector Calls.** Adaptation of JB Priestley's stage play. In 1912, a detective (David Thewlis) arrives in a town where a young woman has committed suicide. Interrupting a wealthy family in the midst of a lavish party, he unravels the events that led to the woman's death – an investigation with devastating repercussions as secrets are exposed and each member of the family realises they have all unwittingly played a part.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 **Regional Programme.**
10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League games, which were Sunderland v Tottenham Hotspur at the Stadium of Light and Leicester City v Aston Villa at the King Power Stadium.
11.35 **Film: The Hunted.** (2003) A traumatised special forces soldier regresses to a feral existence, killing civilians and forcing his mentor to track him down. Thriller, with Tommy Lee Jones.
1.00 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 The Instant Gardener. (R) **7.00** The Instant Gardener. (R) **7.45** Countryfile. (R) **8.45** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.15** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** Great British Menu. (R) **11.45** Great British Menu. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Flog It! (R) **1.30** Live Golf: Walker Cup.
6.00 **Athletics: Great North Run Highlights.** Action from the half-marathon that ran from Newcastle upon Tyne to South Shields, as Mo Farah attempted to retain his title in the men's elite race.
7.00 **World's Busiest Railway 2015.** Dan Snow, Anita Rani, Robert Llewellyn and John Sergeant go behind the scenes at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus to learn what it takes to run the station. (R)
8.00 **Best of Top Gear.** Motoring magazine, featuring test drives of the latest models.
9.00 **Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week.** The 16 remaining contestants are put through a gruelling 48 hours of endurance tests, overseen by an officer from the Philippines' elite special forces. Andrew Flintoff presents.
10.00 **Odyssey.** Odelle finds herself blackmailed by Colonel Glen, who claims she will be branded a traitor and deserter if she comes forward with her story and evidence. Anna Friel stars. Last in the series.
10.40 **Family Guy.** Peter, Quagmire, Joe and Cleveland form a neighborhood detective agency, and are stunned to discover that Chris is a thief.
11.05 **Family Guy.** Angry baby Stewie goes back in time to break up Peter and Lois so he is never conceived, but is instead reborn into a Downton Abbey-esque British household.
11.25 **Family Guy.** Lois causes Peter some distress when she tells him about her dinner date with former boyfriend Ross Fishman, his wife Pam, and their son Ben.
11.45 **Film: The Big Kahuna.** (1999) The rising tension gets to three salesmen as they wait at a hotel to make their pitches to an important potential client. Drama, with Kevin Spacey, Danny DeVito and Peter Facinelli.
1.15 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.10** Holyby City. (R) **3.10** This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.30** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.40** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Dino Dan. (R) **7.05** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Super 4. (R) **7.40** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.30** Fish Hooks. **8.45** Horrid Henry. **9.00** Horrible Science. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.30** ITV News: Weather. **11.45** Film: Problem Child. (1990) Comedy, starring John Ritter. **1.15** Tipping Point. (R) **2.15** The X Factor. (R) **3.30** ITV Changed My Life. (R) **4.30** Midsomer Murders. (R)
6.30 **Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.45** **ITV News:** Weather.
7.00 **Coronation Street.** Jason seeks revenge for Callum's assault, but things don't go to plan when he's discovered hiding out in the drug dealer's flat. Meanwhile, Cathy's nephew Alex gets the wrong idea about her relationship with Roy. Steve is stunned when he overhears Andrea discussing her pregnancy with Michael, and Maria and Steph attempt to damage Luke's stock car so he can't race.
8.00 **The X Factor.** Caroline Flack and Olly Murs host the latest stage of the talent contest. Would-be contestants sing in front of an arena audience of thousands and judging panel Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Nick Grimshaw and Rita Ora, in the hope of winning one of the few coveted places in Boot Camp.
9.00 **The Trials of Jimmy Rose.** Drama, starring Ray Winstone as a former armed robber trying to get his life back in order and reconnect with his family after 12 years in prison. Last in the series.
10.00 **ITV News:** Weather.
10.15 **Film: Casino Royale.** (2006) James Bond pursues an international criminal responsible for financing terrorist organisations across the world. Spy thriller, starring Daniel Craig, Eva Green and Mads Mikkelsen.
12.55 Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
2.45 Motorsport UK. Highlights from Snetterton. **3.35** British Superbike Championship Highlights. Action from Oulton Park. **4.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.45** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.10** The Grid. **7.35** Volkswagen Racing Cup. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** Film: Fast Girls. (2012) Sporting drama, with Lenora Crichlow and Lily James. **3.35** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **4.40** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.40** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.
6.40 **Channel 4 News.**
7.00 **Battle of Britain: The Day the War Was Won.** Dermot O'Leary presents a documentary examining the stories of those who were involved in the decisive Second World War air battle, featuring the personal accounts of fighter pilots, ground crew members and support staff charged with tracking aircraft movements in the RAF's operations centres. Plus, Arthur Williams meets two former servicemen who are training to pilot Spitfires at Boulbee Flight Academy, so they can take part in a ceremonial flypast to mark the 75th anniversary of the battle's conclusion.
8.00 **Time Crashers.** Tony Robinson challenges the celebrities to work on an 18th-century farm, where the men must prepare the animals for a visit from the landowner while the women work in the dairy.
9.00 **This is England '90.** New series. The third drama series following on from Shane Meadows' film, that moves the action forward to 1990. Woody embraces parenthood, while Shaun is pining for Smell.
10.00 **The 90s: Ten Years That Changed the World.** Kathy Burke narrates this look back at the 1990s revolution in British music, fashion, film, sport, art and media, as told by the people who made it happen. (R)
11.30 **Film: The Place Beyond the Pines.** (2012) A former motorcycle stunt rider turns to crime to support his family, leading to a conflict with a troubled, ambitious cop. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling.
1.55 Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.05** You Deserve This House. (R) **5.00** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.55** How I Met Your Mother. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) **6.50** Ticky Toc. (R) **7.00** Chloë's Closet. (R) **7.10** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.20** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.15** Zack and Quack. (R) **8.25** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.40** Jelly Jam. (R) **9.00** LazyTown. (R) **9.25** Dora and Friends. (R) **9.50** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.30** Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Friends. (R) **12.30** Friends. (R) **1.00** Friends. (R) **1.30** Friends. (R) **2.00** Friends. (R) **2.30** Friends. (R) **3.00** Friends. (R) **3.30** Friends. (R) **4.00** Friends. (R) **4.30** Friends. (R) **5.00** Film: Zookeeper. (2011) Comedy, starring Kevin James.
7.00 **Cricket on 5.** England v Australia. Action from the fifth and final match of the one-day series, which took place at Old Trafford. The sides last met here in this format in 2013, when the Aussies won by 88 runs with the help of a century by captain Michael Clarke and three wickets from Clint McKay. Presented by Mark Nicholas, who commentates alongside Michael Vaughan, Geoffrey Boycott and Simon Hughes.
8.00 **Police Interceptors Unleashed with Winnie Jones.** The interceptors are forced to intervene when a pair of thugs cause trouble on a high street. PC Dan Briggshaw pursues a shoplifter fleeing on a scooter, but ends up facing a life-threatening predicament thanks to a teenager's dangerous driving. Last in the series. (R)
8.55 **5 News Weekend.**
9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother.** A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room.
10.00 **Most Shocking Reality TV Moments.** A celebration of the nation's long-running love affair with reality TV, revealing the 50 most memorable moments from some of the best-loved shows including TOWIE and Big Brother. (R)
12.55 SuperCasino. **3.10** Beware: Britain Running Riot. **4.00** The House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Don't Tell the Bride **9.00** Film: Never Back Down (2008) **10.45** Russell Howard's Good News **11.45** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **12.55** Family Guy **1.15** Fried 1.45 Top Coppers **2.15** Russell Howard's Good News **2.45** Don't Tell the Bride **3.45** Sunny D **4.00** Close
BBC Four
7.00 Darcy's Ballerina Heroines **8.00** The King Who Invented Ballet: Louis XIV and the Noble Art of Dance **9.00** Planet Earth **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** The Horizon Guide to Space Shuttles **11.30** Space Shuttle: The Final Mission **12.30** A Very British Map: The Ordnance Survey Story **1.30** Len Goodman's Dance Band Days **2.30** Darcy's Ballerina Heroines **3.30** Close
ITV2
1.30 You've Been Framed! Kids Special **2.35** Film: Sweet November (2001) **4.55** The X Factor **6.10** The Xtra Factor **7.10** Film: Bean (1997) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** Film: Burlesque (2010) **12.25** Viral Tap **1.10** Reality Bites **1.45** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.10** The Hot Desk: Nick Jonas **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
11.40 Agatha Christie's Marple **3.50** Film: The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) **5.45** Wycliffe **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** It'll Be Alright on the Night **10.00** Birds of a Feather **10.30** City Lights **11.30** Film: The Color Purple (1985) **2.25** Wycliffe **3.15** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale
ITV4
12.55 Cycling **1.55** Cycling: Tour of Britain **3.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain Live. Coverage of the eighth and final stage of the race. **6.00** Storage Wars **7.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special **8.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **9.00** Chris Froome: How The Tour Was Won **10.00** Cycling **11.00** Film: Quadsophrenia (1979) **1.25** Hogan's Heroes **1.50** Cycling **2.40** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
12.30 Couples Come Dine with Me **2.35** Bad(ish) Robots **3.00** Rude(ish) Tube **3.35** The Big Bang Theory **5.30** Film: Edward Scissorhands (1990) **7.35** The Big Bang Theory **10.00** Gogglebox **12.05** Young, Free & Single **1.15** How I Met Your Mother **2.10** Rules of Engagement **2.55** 2 Broke Girls **3.20** Hollyoaks
Film4
1.00 The Hunt for Red October (1990) **3.40** Iron Man (2008) **6.10** The Core (2003) **9.00** The Host (2013) **11.25** Tyrannosaur (2011)

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Profile for Murder, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A criminal profiler retires to live in California with her family and move on from the horrific crime that ended her career. Her idyllic life is shattered when she discovers the serial killer responsible has escaped from prison and is intent on terrorising her. Thriller, starring Nicki Aycox and Steve Bacic. (2013)

TUESDAY
Taken Back: Finding Haley, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman whose daughter goes missing spends years obsessing over finding her. She meets a girl who she becomes convinced is her child, and tries to prove that her parents are in fact kidnappers. Thriller, starring Moira Kelly and Amanda Tapping. (2012)

WEDNESDAY
Chocolat, Channel 4, 2am
A woman and her daughter move to a sleepy French village in 1959 and brazenly open a chocolate shop directly opposite the Catholic parish church during Lent. At first the locals are enraged and appalled, but her confections soon raise spirits in the community. Drama, with Juliette Binoche and Johnny Depp. (2000)



THURSDAY
Lethal Obsession, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A woman with a troubled marriage attends a family funeral, and is reunited with her dangerously overprotective brother. He initially seems to have moved on from his past obsessive behaviour, but when people around her start disappearing, she realises he is killing anyone he disapproves of – and her husband may be next. Thriller, starring Kellie Martin and Adam MacDonald. (2007)

FRIDAY
Surrogates, BBC1, 11.35pm
In the future, all human activity is performed by robot duplicates mentally controlled by their owners, who live lives of complete isolation. As a mysterious killer begins murdering both humans and their doubles, an FBI agent ventures into the real world for the first time in years to catch the criminal. Sci-fi thriller, starring Bruce Willis and Radha Mitchell. (2009)

Daniel plays a very different kind of game

If anyone knows what it's like to be part of a cultural phenomenon, it's Daniel Radcliffe.

The actor was just 11 when he landed the role of Harry Potter in the block-busting film adaptations of JK Rowling's hugely successful novels.

It must have been a lot of pressure – over the course of eight films, fans got the chance to watch Radcliffe grow up on screen – but luckily, he seems to have largely avoided most of the pitfalls that have come with being a child star.

He's put his continuing success (he's gone on to win rave reviews for his stage work in *Equus* and *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, and appeared in films as diverse as *The Woman in Black*, *Kill Your Darlings* and *Horns*) down to his offbeat taste in scripts.

He told *The Guardian*: "I think I've got good taste, but it's slightly left of centre. I'm not interested in making films I've seen before.

"There's nothing more exciting to me when I read a script than originality. That's all it's governed by; there's no master plan to distance myself from Potter with every role."

However, his experiences may just help him in the new one-off drama, *The Gamechangers*, which focuses on a very different sort of entertainment phenomenon.

The film explores the story of the computer game *Grand Theft Auto*, which the BBC has described as arguably the greatest British coding success since the days of *Bletchley Park*.

If you're not a gamer, that may initially sound like a somewhat outlandish claim, but the numbers do speak for themselves.

The most recent iteration, *GTA-V*, released in October 2013, earned \$1 billion in just three days, making it the fastest-selling entertainment product in history.

The *Gamechangers* shows how this success story began with a group of British gaming geniuses who had known each other since their schooldays.

With creative mastermind Sam Hauser (Radcliffe) at the heart of it all.

GTA's invitation to enter a fictionalised American underworld, where you can steal cars and gun down rival gangsters and cops alike, proves irresistible to players, it also attracts a lot of controversy.

The more successful the game becomes, the more critics it picks up, with parents, politicians and moral campaigners all worried about the values they claim *GTA* is encouraging and the effect it may have on children.

And at the vanguard of the crusade is lawyer Jack Thompson (Twister's Bill Paxton), who is determined to stop the game's rise.

The *Gamechangers* has already generated some controversy of its own – the firm *Rockstar Games* filed a suit against the BBC to 'ensure that our trademarks are not misused in the BBC's pursuit of an unofficial depiction of purported events related to *Rockstar Games*'.

But it remains to be seen if the drama will change any viewers' minds about the nature of the games and their effects on the people who play them.



Daniel Radcliffe stars in *The Gamechangers*, Tuesday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

Monday
All Change at Longleat BBC1, 9pm
New series. Behind-the-scenes look at the Wiltshire stately home as its flamboyant owner, the Marquess of Bath, prepares to retire and hand over control to his son Ceawlin and his wife Emma, but the change isn't going smoothly. Ceawlin has upset his father, and the pair are no longer on speaking terms, and there is further unrest in the estate's village when the rents are increased. Meanwhile, Emma is settling into life as Lady Weymouth.

6 Degrees of Separation BBC2, 10pm
Not content with giving our brains a Monday night work out with the double bill of *University Challenge* and *Only Connect*, BBC Two is now bringing us a new panel show so mentally stimulating, it threatens to make *QI* look like *Celebrity Juice*. Hosted by Professor Brian Cox, with the help of *Mock the Week* regular Hugh Dennis and Ben Miller, who abandoned a PhD in physics for a career in comedy, it sees scientists competing to find the connections between six unlikely objects. In the first episode the experts try to work out what links an analogue record player to Galileo, a dung beetle, whipped cream, and the inner Earth.

TUESDAY
Battle of Britain: Return of the Spitfires Channel 4, 8pm
To mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, Second World War aircraft from across the UK, America and Europe will be descending on Boulton Flight Academy for an historic flypast over the south of England. Fortunately, for anyone unable to see this historic event, Channel 4 is bringing us the highlights, presented by Spitfire enthusiast Dermot O'Leary – and featuring a special guest appearance from Prince Harry.

WEDNESDAY
The Sound of ITV: The Nation's Favourite Theme Tunes ITV, 8pm
Victoria Wood narrates a countdown of the top 20 theme tunes from throughout ITV's history, as the channel marks its 60th anniversary this year. The list of tracks was compiled via an opinion poll, which gave viewers a chance to vote for their favourite themes from the six-decade catalogue of ITV's most popular shows. Includes interviews with Who Wants to Be a Millionaire host Chris Tarrant, Coronation Street

veteran William Roache and Dennis Waterman, formerly the star of *Minder* and *The Sweeney*, as well as contributions by the composers responsible for creating these distinctive themes, such as Christopher Gunning (Poitrot), Simon Park (Van Der Valk) and Tony Hatch (Emmerdale).



The Sound of ITV: The Nation's Favourite Theme Tunes, Wednesday, ITV, 8pm

FRIDAY
Rugby World Cup: Opening Ceremony ITV, 6.45pm
John Inverdale introduces live coverage of the traditional curtain-raiser ahead of the eighth staging of the Rugby World Cup, which takes place at Twickenham. A performance with the theme of 'Breaking New Ground' retells the history of the sport from the very beginning, including the fateful moment at Rugby School in 1823 when William Webb Ellis quite literally picked up the ball and ran with it. Jonny Wilkinson, Lawrence Dallaglio and Clive Woodward provide studio analysis, while commentary comes from Nick Mullins.

Sarah Millican Hijacks Deal or No Deal Channel 4, 8pm
Cast your minds back to autumn 2005, when Channel 4 unveiled its latest gameshow, and revealed that it involved a member of the public opening boxes at random, while host Noel Edmonds occasionally halted the proceedings to have a one-sided phone conversation. Be honest, it didn't exactly sound like a formula for ratings gold, did it? Now, to celebrate the show's anniversary, comedienne Sarah Millican takes on the presenting duties, as Noel finally gets a chance to play the game himself. Last in the series.



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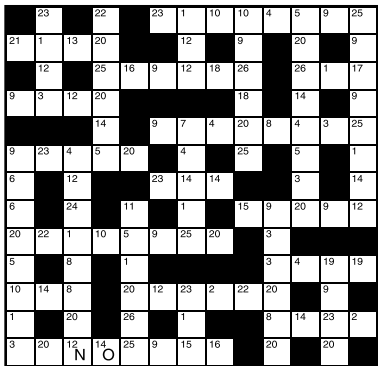
Personal Injury



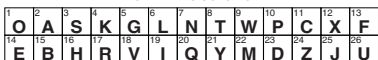
BRAIN GYM No.342

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

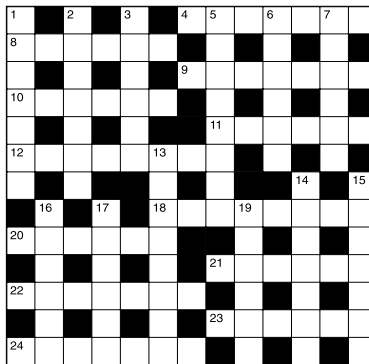
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Chiroprapist in service? (7)
- Plea to reunite forces - or how it's delivered? (6)
- Shocking rattles cause alarm (7)
- Its use could be for light wrapping (6)
- Be a tell-tale in class (6)
- Generous applause for what the fortunate card-player gets (4,4)
- Two instruments needed for lively dance (8)
- See 19 Down
- Seizes right in the pants! (6)
- More than one political set that is in fragments! (7)
- See 17 Down
- It's not altruistic to market sea-food, we hear (7)

Down

- The cost of communicating with the Gestapo, maybe (7)
- Deep feeling when one comes in to die (7)
- Marshy ground becomes southern lake (6)
- He's not admitted our diet's been ruined (8)
- This gives the rates for endless assortment of traffic (6)
- Inveigle a learner with broken rule (6)
- Has reset different arboreal features (3-5)
- Fail to contact one on a diplomatic errand (7)
- You'll find me getting a certain size (7)
- Distort the appearance of French dial (6)
- 17 & 23Ac. Just the place for the judge's sitting? (4,2,6)
- 19 & 20Ac. Inflicted by a team with little to spare (6,6)



Quick Clues:

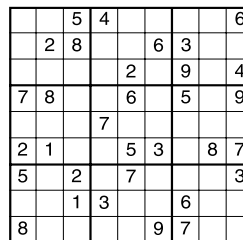
Across

- Exonerate (7)
- Intellect (6)
- Florid (7)
- Elbow (6)
- Objective (6)
- Steady (8)
- Keep (8)
- End (6)
- Cold (6)
- Excuse (7)
- Big gun (6)
- Widespread (7)

Down

- Stick out (7)
- Transient (7)
- Drinking-cup (6)
- Disparage (8)
- Advancing (6)
- Whirlpool (6)
- Suffocation (8)
- Offspring (7)
- Marriage (7)
- Savage (6)
- Small (6)
- Vein (6)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6	4	7	1	3	2	5	8	9
3	2	1	8	9	5	7	6	4
5	8	9	4	6	7	3	1	2
9	3	4	7	5	1	6	2	8
1	6	8	3	2	9	4	5	7
2	7	5	6	8	4	9	3	1
7	5	3	9	1	8	2	4	6
4	1	6	2	7	3	8	9	5
8	9	2	5	4	6	1	7	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Dying breath; 9 Ham; 10 Signature; 11 Rocks; 13 Another; 14 Strata; 16 Ararat; 18 Prairie; 19 Sugar; 20 Long after; 21 Rye; 22 Appointment. Down: 2 Yam; 3 Nests; 4 Beggar; 5 Enamour; 6 Truth drug; 7 Short supply; 8 Secretaries; 12 Curtain up; 15 Tornade; 17 Beaten; 19 Strum; 21 Ran. QUICK - Across: 1 Indifferent; 9 Out; 10 Simpleton; 11 Knave; 13 Skittle; 14 Enrage; 16 Escort; 18 Pygmies; 19 Fleck; 20 Nonentity; 21 Inn; 22 Leading role. Down: 2 Not; 3 Issue; 4 Farnish; 5 Rallies; 6 Not at home; 7 Bookkeeping; 8 Undertaking; 12 Arrogance; 15 Grinned; 17 Assign; 19 Foyer; 21 Ill.

Thinking space

Quiz

- What type of animal is an orange-tip?
- With what country would you associate Blue Mountain coffee?
- In which English county is Greenham Common?
- What is the German name for the Black Forest?
- Which Chinese river is also known as the Hwang He?
- Which international organization was promoted by Jean Henri Dunant?
- In what year was the battle of Magenta?
- Who wrote the song White Christmas?
- Who created the character Violet Elizabeth Bott?
- What award is given for a wound incurred in action in the US Forces?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Barabbas; 2 Pickwick Papers;

3 1957; 4 New Zealand; 5 1658; 6 Czech;

7 Fear of women; 8 Jensen; 9 Northern line;

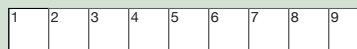
10 A Star.

Niner: DEFRAYING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

7179 gives a flower,
6485 gives a fruit,
243374 gives a plant.



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Sizzler on road and track

By Matt Joy

There's always room for improvement, even in the world of supercars. McLaren goes hunting with its lighter, faster and more powerful 675 LT.

Creating an even faster, track-ready version of an existing supercar could be achieved very quickly – and cynically; an engine tweak here, a bigger wing there.

But that's not how McLaren has gone about creating the limited run 675 LT. The Long Tail name references the F1 Long Tails created for further dominance in motorsport, and this road car is designed to work on the track too.

There's more power, but from an engine that is 50 per cent new. It's 100kg lighter, thanks to extreme measures like a slimmed-down wiring loom, improved aerodynamics also give the 675 a distinct look compared to its 650S sibling, and some clever features like the track telemetry app so you can play at being an F1 driver.

McLaren's first road car of recent times was pretty and functional, but during the intervening years, the style and impact of each model has consistently improved. The 675 LT is both dramatic and attractive, with the aero package adding to the race car look. It gives the bigger (and much more expensive) P1 a run for its money in terms of looks.

On the image front there's very little to touch the 675 LT. Not only does it benefit from being limited to just 500 examples, the racing pedigree can't be bought.

You'll want to leave the shopping at home, although if you're a bit of a show-off you can head for the local supermarket and return with 144 litres of goodies. More importantly the cabin space is good; the dihedral doors open up and away, and although the bucket seats are slim and require a little care, once you're in, the driving position is excellent and the view out is good.

There are also a few areas to store odds and ends, even cup holders, but you won't want to use those if you're exploiting the performance.

The 3.8-litre twin-turbocharged V8 delivers 666bhp (675PS in metric, hence the name) and 516lb/ft of torque, and with a kerb weight of just 1,230kg the performance is utterly spectacular. A sub-three-second to 62mph is a given, but the 0-124mph time of 7.9 seconds is borderline ludicrous. It might be turbocharged but the engine is hugely flexible and responsive, and in the right engine mode the quick-snap gear changes are accompanied by glorious pops from the exhaust.

The way the 675 LT behaves on road and track is equally stunning. With the scant restrictions of the track to worry about, you can revel in the grip, the balance and the delicacy of its behaviour, even at high speeds and with big g-forces.

As well as the aero changes, the 675 has tweaked ESP settings that are separate from the Handling mode, so you can have softer suspension on the road, but still with a loose safety net or the complete opposite on the track.

It's surprisingly friendly yet enormously involving, and of course, huge fun.

There is a substantial premium for the 675 LT over the 650S, but it's worth remembering



.....
‘Any lucky so-and-so in the fortunate position to buy one should be queuing up for a 675 LT.’

ing how much of the car is different. The unique exterior, revised suspension, lightweight parts and extra performance give a notably different feel from its sister car. Even the telemetry system, which gives you the kind of data level that Mr Button and Mr Alonso get to play with at weekends adds to the experience. And say it quietly, but a car like this limited to just 500 worldwide won't lose too much money in a hurry.

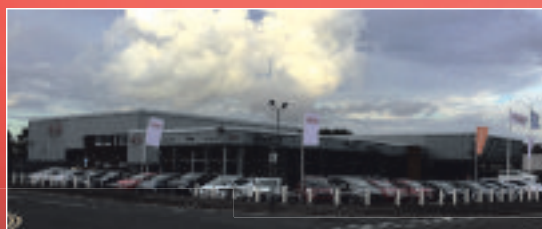
Any lucky so-and-so in the fortunate position to buy one should be queuing up

for a 675 LT. There's always a market for 'everyday' supercars, but over and above that the track-focused versions are seemingly more in demand; the idea being you can drive your steed to the track, enjoy some hot laps and drive it home again, all without having to do anything other than fill it with fuel. You'll need to be on good terms with your McLaren dealer though; apparently all 500 are spoken for.

This car summed up in a single word: Sizzling. If this car was a Jet fighter it would be running rings around its enemies.

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DRIVETIME

Dealing with the speedy drivers



Should drivers convicted of motoring offences be banned or could they be put to better use?

There are several driving offences that carry an automatic ban if the driver is convicted. This is a proper sentence as it aims to remove dangerous drivers from our roads.

But what about the many drivers who end up banned through the 'totting up' system where, if they end up with 12 points on their licence, they face a driving ban?

Of course, these drivers have received penalty points for driving offences, often speeding.

The fact they have repeatedly re-offended and not learned from the experience suggests another approach is required.

Among the various options that have been mooted and tried are driver education courses and fitting this kind of driver's car with a monitoring device, a bit like the automotive equivalent of an ASBO tag.

However, there is one option that hasn't been explored and it could offer some banned drivers a chance of a good driving education, while also serving the community. The idea is to allow some banned drivers back behind the wheel under strictly supervised conditions so they can carry out a community service.

'If a banned driver could reduce the length of their driving ban by carrying out community service combined with driver education, it could benefit all involved'

While a driver may have their licence taken away due to a ban, the ability to operate and drive a vehicle remains with that individual. So instead of letting them walk or use the bus, bicycle, train or taxis, why not make use of their driving ability to benefit others who might not have access to a vehicle, or be able to drive.

If a banned driver could reduce the length of their driving ban by carrying out community service combined with driver education, it could benefit all involved. The driver would have to pass a driving test before being allowed on the road, which is something they would have to do anyway at the end of the ban period.

When this type of driver goes out on the road, they would be under strict supervision and all of their driving time would be part of a re-education course to make them aware of the dangers of speeding and other driving offences.

After passing a driving test and initially proving their ability to drive safely, they could help the elderly or disabled getting to and from home, shops and appointments. These probation drivers could also help with services such as meals on wheels or deliver documents for services such as hospitals.

All of this would be conducted with a qualified driving instructor sat in the car, helping to generate business for them.

Of course, this idea would not be suitable for all and some offences, such as drink or drug-driving, should mean the driver serving the entire ban and then sitting a driving test. However, for some drivers, it could be a way for them to redeem themselves by giving back to their communities and learning to be better drivers at the same time.

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NEW PART EXCHANGES ARRIVING DAILY - CALL US NOW FOR LATEST STOCK UPDATE

At the risk of sounding a bit blase, not a lot. Seat has kept much of the Alhambra's winning formula untouched, only tweaking the styling, the engines and adding the latest connectivity thanks in part to a new partnership with Samsung.

You still get seven seats, two built-in booster seats in the middle row, sliding rear doors and options for petrol, diesel, manual and automatic.

If you look really (really, really) closely, you might also notice the new Seat logo.

The Alhambra doesn't look all that bad for a family bus, adding a few Leon-esque touches without going too crazy. Dads will appreciate the boredom bypass but mums won't think it looks too sporty to be a good family car.

It's clearly no automotive sex symbol, but it's a solid choice for looks.

As for image, the Alhambra is something of an unsung hero, derided by those who'd never buy one anyway, but loved by the people who own one.

It might not be a glamorous choice (it isn't), but its owners would tell you it's a good one.

Even with all seven seats up and occupied there's still an impressive boot, good enough for one really large suitcase with soft bags on top, or two medium cases plus extras. Fold the back seats down - this isn't as easy or quick as you'll see in some rivals - and you're left with a cavernous boot good enough for anything a family might need to shove into it.

The sliding doors, complete with holders for large bottles, are a huge boon in car parks and the two built-in booster seats mean that kids of around 4-11 years old can escape the need for an aftermarket unit.

To maximise passenger room, the three individual seats in row two slide forward and back. Adults approaching six-feet tall will find it a squeeze in the child-centric row three but everywhere else affords lots of head and shoulder room.

Quality

Believe it or not (you MPV cynic, you) the Alhambra is far from terrible to drive. Selecting Comfort mode within the adjustable damper settings rewards with an impressive ride quality you'll love, while the cringe-inducing Sport mode does at least provide a bit more straight-line urge and extra body control in the corners.

You sit high in this car; easily at compact SUV height. There's a great view of the road ahead as a result, and there's every chance that even nervous drivers would gain confidence behind the wheel.

The DSG twin-clutch automatic gearbox is a boon around town, whispering effortlessly through ratios, but it's perhaps too keen to kick down gears and bypass the meat of the diesel engines' torque. The manual gives more useful control for acceleration. There are no such braking worries, as the chunky Seat stops on a sixpence.

Value for money...

Ah. This is where it starts to look a little worse for the Alhambra. The entry-level petrol model just about dips beneath the £25,000 mark, while the mainstream models fall roughly between the £28,000 and £33,000 marks. That's fabulously expensive for a car of this type, especially considering that the adjustable dampers aren't standard (£935) and you also have to pay more than £1,000 extra to add powered actuation to the tailgate and sliding doors on the cheaper trim grades.

Families and user-choser company car drivers with three or more kids are the main buyers here. Seat predicts a 70/30 split towards business sales, so the typical Alhambra driver is likely to be a family man or woman with a few kids at home and a desire for both space and comfort.

This car summed up in a single word: Friendly

If this car was a children's TV show it would be Peppa Pig. The kids love it and the parents become strangely attached.

TESTED

Seat Alhambra, from £24,885
(£35,420 as tested)

Engine: 2.0-litre turbodiesel producing 181bhp and 280lb/ft

Transmission: Six-speed dual-clutch automatic driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 133mph, 0-62mph in 8.9 seconds

Economy: 53.3mpg combined

Emissions: 139g/km of CO2

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2011 60 SWIFT 1.2 SZ2 5-Dr alloy wheels rear spoiler electric windows stunner only 34019 miles	£5,999
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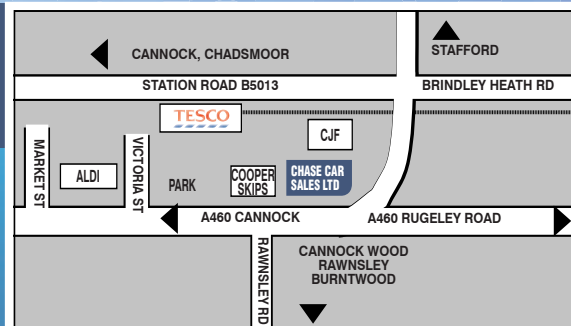
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Plug-in car grant scheme is extended

The Government says the current Plug-in Car Grant scheme will continue to offer motorists up to £5,000 off the price of an electric car until at least February 2016 for all categories of vehicle, boosting further the rapidly-growing plug-in car market.

The Government's commitment to maintaining the established Plug-in Car Grant will see the contribution for ultra-low emission vehicles continue at current levels into 2016. Previously the Government had announced that grant levels would be reviewed once

50,000 vehicles had been sold, a milestone expected to be reached in November this year. As a result, all plug-in cars with CO2 emissions of 75g/km or less will remain eligible for a grant.

Given its ambition to make the UK a world leader in ultra-low emission technology, the Government recently announced that a minimum of £200 million has been made available to continue the Plug-in Car Grant and this latest news will add extra incentive to private buyers and fleets who were looking to 'go electric' in 2015 and 2016. Further details about how the grant will be structured beyond February are expected in November.

Popular demand for ultra-low emission

vehicles meant that the 50,000 threshold will be reached before the end of the year. Registrations of plug-in cars accelerated rapidly over the first six months of 2015, according to the Government-backed Go Ultra Low campaign, growing 256 per cent against the same period last year.

Transport Minister, Andrew Jones MP said: "I'm pleased to announce that the Government is maintaining the current levels of grant, even as we move past the milestone of 50,000 vehicles."

"The UK is now the fastest growing market for electric vehicles in Europe."

"We will continue to invest to help make this technology affordable to everyone and

to secure the UK's position as a global leader."

Hetal Shah, head of Go Ultra Low, said: "Continuing the Plug-in Car Grant at current levels is positive news for everyone, as it encourages zero-emission motoring and secures more funding for a greater number of ULEV buyers."

Go Ultra Low exists to help motorists understand the benefits, cost savings and capabilities of the raft of new ultra-low emission vehicles on the market. The campaign is the first of its kind, bringing together a consortium of seven leading vehicle manufacturers, the Government and the SMMT - www.goultralow.com

Right-hand Mustangs roll off production line

Almost 2,000 Ford Mustang orders have been taken in the UK since January as the first right-hand drive cars begin to roll off the production line at Flatrock Assembly Plant in Michigan, North America.

The Ford Mustang - introduced in the US more than 50 years ago - has excited fans across the globe, but has never been available to order with right-hand drive, until now. The first UK customer deliveries are expected from November, with extra supply secured to meet the greater than expected demand.

So far, 80 per cent of UK customers have opted for the fastback body style over the convertible and 70 per cent have specified the 416PS 5.0-litre V8 engine over the more fuel-efficient 317PS 2.3-litre EcoBoost engine.

Mustang's six-speed manual transmission is the slightly more popular choice (55 per cent) over the six-speed automatic, which comes with sporty SelectShift paddle control.

Over half of UK Mustangs have been specified with the Custom Pack which includes satellite navigation, a Shaker Pro 12-speaker audio system, heated and cooled front seats, a rear view camera, Luster Nickel silver alloy wheels and extra chrome detailing on fastback models.

Race Red is the most-popular exterior colour among UK buyers, with 23 per cent of Mustang orders. Magnetic Silver and Shadow Black are joint second choice with 16.1 per cent each and Deep Impact Blue (10.7 per cent) and Triple Yellow (8.6 per cent) complete the top five. Ebony Black is the top pick for interior colour, selected by more than 75 per cent of customers.

The right-hand drive Mustang is available to order in the UK from £29,995 (EcoBoost) and £33,995 (V8) and features a Thatcham Category One alarm as standard.

Offer for young drivers

Peugeot has created an industry first by offering an all-in-one car, insurance and breakdown cover package to drivers aged 18 to 20.

The 'Just Add Fuel' scheme was previously only open to those aged 21-75 who have at least two years' no claims bonus, but younger and less-experienced drivers can now qualify to buy Peugeot's smallest car, the 108, through the same deal - as long as they agree to being monitored by a telematics device.

For £248 per month, with no deposit needed, an eligible 18-year-old with a full UK driving licence can secure an entry-level 108 along with insurance, roadside breakdown assistance and servicing all included for three years.

Road tax is also technically included, but it is rated at £0 for all 108 models.

The telematics-based system monitors the driver's basic car control, like how hard they accelerate, brake and go around corners. This creates a score from one to 100.

If consistent negative behaviour is detected, dropping the aggregate score below an agreed level, a warning is issued. Accruing four of these will result in the insurance being cancelled. Customers will have access to an online web portal where they can monitor their results and review their driving activity.

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia 'SR7' range: Urban 42.8 (6.6) - 52.3 (5.4), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1) - 78.5 (3.6), Combined 50.4 (5.6) - 67.3 (4.2). CO2 emissions 99-130g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. *You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. T&C's apply. Subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. 24 months. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew. Part exchange the vehicle. (ii) Retain. Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Anticipated annual mileage 6,000 miles, excess mileage charge 14.9 pence per mile. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Price and specification is subject to change without notice. Offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. *Care-3 covers routine servicing and excludes wear parts. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

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High-class cabin for stylish new Kia Optima

The all-new Kia Optima will be unveiled in European specification at the Frankfurt International Motor Show on September 15.

The fourth-generation Optima, which will go on sale across Europe in Q4 2015, has a modern, new exterior, a bold interior design with more space for all occupants, an array of new technologies and a wide choice of efficient powertrains.

The new model will offer greater refinement and improved ride and handling over the outgoing model, while retaining the sporty image that has helped Optima become one of Kia's best-selling models worldwide.

The Kia Optima plays an important role in the Kia Motors Europe product line-up, introducing the brand to an increasing number of new customers. Since the third-generation model launched in 2011, with its distinctive look, high-quality interior and high-tech image, the Optima has offered buyers something fresh and different in the D-segment.

The all-new Optima's evolutionary new look was designed to be functional and sporty, with exterior dimensions that are marginally longer, taller and wider. These changes enable a roomier and more comfortable cabin, with more head-, shoulder- and rear-seat leg-room and greater cargo capacity. From a styling perspective, the new dimensions afforded Kia's designers the chance to introduce a more swept-back, dynamic shape.

This attractive new design makes the fourth-generation model the most aerodynamic Optima to date, with drag reduced from 0.3 to 0.29 Cd. The all-new Optima will be available in Europe in a choice of nine paint colours, and will ride on alloy wheels ranging from 16- to 18 inches in diameter.

The material quality of the all-new Optima's cabin is significantly improved over the outgoing model, with a far higher proportion of soft-touch materials, as well as cloth and leather trim in natural tones. Tasteful metallic accents throughout the cabin add a higher quality ambience to the interior.

The larger interior and exterior dimensions of the fourth-generation Optima ensure that the all-new model is the most practical, spacious and comfortable. Cargo space has grown from 505 to 510 litres (VDA), with the under-floor storage area and a wider boot opening adding greater practicality.

Standards

The all-new Optima features a uniquely engineered body which combines more high-strength materials than ever before, resulting in even higher standards of crash safety. While passive safety is improved, the new model is also equipped with a series of high-tech active and autonomous safety features, and Kia's engineers have targeted a five-star Euro NCAP safety rating throughout the Optima's development programme.

Kia's vehicle stability management is fitted as standard, ensuring stability under braking and cornering by controlling the car's electronic stability control and electric motor-driven power steering if it detects a loss of traction. The Optima is available with a wide range of optional active hazard-avoidance technologies, depending on market.

Improving ride and handling was a top priority for Kia's dynamic development teams, with a focus on delivering the ride comfort and stability customers expect from a D-segment sedan, while achieving the level of agility promised by the car's sportier appearance. With a lighter, stiffer chassis, the suspension is better able to isolate vibrations and bumps from poor road surfaces, while a series of upgrades to the suspension set-up helps to blend agile handling with an improvement in ride comfort.

The all-new Optima debuts a number of new, advanced on-board technologies to improve usability, comfort and convenience. The new technologies featured make it the one of the most innovative cars in the D-segment. The touchscreen infotainment system is paired with a six-speaker audio system as standard. A powerful Harman Kardon Premium Sound system, featuring 10 speakers, an external amplifier and Clari-Fi MP3 restoration technology, is also available as an option.

A first for any car in the D-segment, the all-new Optima will be available with a new wireless charger for mobile devices, allowing the new model to meet the increasing demand from car buyers – particularly in this class – for new convenience technologies. The all-new Optima will be available with a range of engines when it goes on sale across Europe later this year, striking a balance between performance and efficiency. Driving the front wheels, every engine in the range is compliant with the latest Euro 6 emission standard, resulting in cleaner emissions. The Optima is popular among both private and fleet buyers, and the fourth-generation model offers the choice of either a diesel or petrol engine, each engineered to meet the varying needs of all types of customers.

The all-new Kia Optima will offer the company's unique seven-year, 150,000km warranty as standard.



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Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 21.7 (13.0) to 72.4 (3.9), Extra Urban 40.4 (7.0) to 91.1 (3.1), Combined 30.4 (9.3) to 83.1 (3.4). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA range are 217 to 88g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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Fury packs real punch in pick-up sales ring

By Sharon Walters

Isuzu UK is storming into the second half of 2015 with the addition of the D-Max Fury, an exclusive-to-the-UK model that boosts the D-Max pick-up range to 10 variants.

The new Fury packs a real punch with a number of unique style enhancements and technology upgrades. Based on the Eiger double-cab model, the special edition can be tamed from just £19,999 (CVOTR), representing a saving of around £2000 compared to buying the accessories separately. Fury is available with either manual or auto transmission.

The attention-grabbing style of the D-Max Fury starts with the stunning and unique Magma Red metallic paint finish, while bold 17-inch, five-spoke grey alloy wheels shod with 255/65 R17 Pirelli Scorpion tyres emphasise the pick-up's powerful road presence. The exterior upgrades continue with a dark grey metallic finish to the front grille – complete with a fiery red Isuzu logo at its centre – and Cosmic black door and tailgate handles, and black rear bumper, as well as gun metal grey heavy-duty side steps.

Inside, the sporting nature of the Fury is made clear with unique red stitching to key contact points such as the steering wheel and gear knob and the provision of dedicated Fury carpet mats. Customers will also have the option to upgrade the interior upholstery to Limited Edition Black and Red Fury leather. They will have to move quickly as just 100 will be made available.

Fury also features a rear camera to aid easier parking and manoeuvring out of tight spots. With the vehicle in 'reverse', the image behind is cleverly displayed in the rear view mirror inside the cabin.

Robust

At the heart of the Fury remains the powerful-yet-efficient 2.5-litre twin-turbo diesel engine, producing 163 PS and 400 Nm of torque. Isuzu's robust diesel will return a highly impressive fuel economy of 38.7 mpg on a combined cycle. Owners of the new Fury will also benefit from a heavyweight towing capacity of 3.5 tonnes (braked trailer) and 1,072 (manual) 1,067 (auto) tonne payload.

William Brown, general manager at Isuzu UK, said: "We are confident the Fury will further widen the appeal of the D-Max which already has one of the widest choices of model of any pickup in the UK.

The Fury has been designed for those seeking an affordable pick-up with stand-out appeal. It's certainly a head-turner and, alongside the Blade and rest of the D-Max range, will meet the growing demand for a stylish vehicle which can be used for both work and recreation."

2014 was the best ever year for Isuzu in the UK with sales of over 5,500 pick-ups and the growth has continued into 2015 with sales up over 30 per cent year to date. Isuzu UK continues to be the biggest market in Europe for the Japanese brand by a considerable margin.

Fury will go on sale from September priced at £19,999 (CVOTR) for the six-speed manual and £20,999 (CVOTR) for the 5-speed auto. Like all new Isuzu models sold in the UK, the D-Max Fury will come with the company's pioneering five-year / 125,000 mile warranty.



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Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for All-New Tucson range: Urban 28.2 (10.0) - 52.3 (5.4), Extra Urban 43.5 (6.5) - 67.3 (4.2), Combined 37.2 (7.6) - 61.7 (4.6), CO2 Emissions 177 - 119g/km. These official EU test figures are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results. Model shown: All-New Tucson Premium SE 2.0 CRDi 136PS Blue Drive manual at £28,930 OTR including White Sand metallic paint at £585. * On the road price of £18,695 applies to All-New Tucson S 1.6 GDI 132PS Blue Drive manual with solid paint. 5 Year Unlimited Mileage Warranty terms and exclusions apply. Visit www.hyundai.co.uk/owning or ask your local dealer.

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MOLINEUX

Joyce Hannah

Passed away on August 31,
2015 at County Hospital,
Stafford, aged 90 years.

The Funeral Service will
take place at Brereton
Methodist Church on Friday,
September 18, 2015 at 11am,
followed by Burial in St
Michael's Churchyard.

Family flowers only, any
donations received will be
given to Cancer Research.

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PAYTON

Samuel

Passed away peacefully
September 3, 2015, aged
93 years.

He will be sadly missed by all
his Family and Friends.

Funeral Service will be held
at St Thomas' Church,
Huntington, on Thursday,
September 17, at 11am,
followed by the Interment in
St Peters Churchyard,
Hednesford.

Inquiries

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

RODIC

Laura May Pamela

Reunited with Husband
Nick.

Sadly passed away on Friday,
August 8, 2015, aged 84 years.

Beloved Mom to Michael and
Carolyn, Mom-in-law to Jane,
Nan to Nicholas and Stuart.

Dearest Sister, Sister-in-law,
Aunt and good Friend to all
who knew her.

Funeral Service will take
place at St Mark's Church,
Great Wyrley, on Thursday,
September 10, at 11.00am
followed by Burial at Great
Wyrley Cemetery.

Family flowers only.

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TODOROVICH

Stella

Formerly of Wharwell Lane,
Great Wyrley.

'God saw you getting weary'

Passed away at The Heathers
Nursing Home, on
Wednesday, August 26, 2015,
aged 83 years.

Reunited with her devoted
Husband Mich and beloved
Mom of Kristina and Kath,
also a loving Nan, Great-Nan,
Aunt, Mother-in-law and
Friend.

Funeral Service will be held
at St Mary's R.C. Church, on
Monday, September 14, at
11am, followed by Interment
at Great Wyrley Cemetery.

Family flowers only.

Donations if desired to The
Heathers Nursing Home
Comfort Fund c/o Funeral
Directors.

The Funeral care has been
entrusted to

FARAGHER MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House,
75, Broadhurst Green,
Hednesford
Telephone 01543 879866.

WILLIAMS

Stanley

Sadly passed away, Sunday,
August 30, 2015.

A much loved Husband, Dad
and Grandad who will be
missed by his Family and
Friends.

The Funeral Service will
take place at Bushbury
Crematorium on Monday,
September 14, 2015 at
11.30am.

Family flowers only.

Any donations received will go
to Cancer Research and
British Heart Foundation.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
67 Station Street,
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG
01922 410612

WOOLLEY

Jane Margaret

(June)

Passed away on Friday,
September 4, 2015, at Talbot
house Nursing Home, aged 81
years.

The Funeral Service will take
place on Tuesday September
22, 2015, at St Michael's
Church, Brereton at 11am,
followed by Burial at Stile
Cop Cemetery.

Family flowers only any
donations received will be
given to Talbot House
Nursing Home.

These can be forwarded care
of

PHILLIP EMERY

Funeral Directors

Bedford House,

15, Bow Street,

Rugeley.

WS15 2BT.

01889 582274.

in memoriam

RILEY

Joan

September 12, 2014.

Deep in our hearts your
memory is kept, to love and to
cherish and never forget.

Lynda, Ken and Families.

acknowledgements

BROWN

Ronald George

The Funeral took place on
September 1, at Stafford
Crematorium.

Thanks to all who attended
and for donations, which
have been sent to Cancer
Research.

CARTER

Harry

Harry's Family would like to
thank Family, Friends and
Neighbours for their kind
support during Harry's
illness and death.

Donations of £600 have kindly
been donated and will be
divided between The
Coronary Care Unit at
The Queens Hospital,
Burton-on-Trent and St.
Nicholas' Church, Mayesyn
Ridware.

Doreen and Family.

lost & found

LOST—Kizzi. A brown-ginger
short haired cat, wearing a green
collar, Pimpemel Drive, Tame-
bridge. WS5 area. 07455 11629.

congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS

EMILIA BARBIERO



BSc with Honours

Psychology 2:1

CONGRATULATIONS

on your graduation from

Birmingham City University.

Every success and happiness

for the future.

Proud parents Eva &

Carmine & all your Family.

X X X X



Family Announcements

Just call us on 01902 317878

Our lines are open between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm
Monday to Friday CLOSED Saturdays

DAILY DEADLINES

*Before 4.00 pm Monday to Friday for the next day's edition
Before 4.30 pm Friday for Monday,
*Subject to change Bank Holidays.

www.myfamilyannouncements.co.uk/expressandstar



**Engagements
condolences
memories
birthdays
weddings & births**

Buy Local, Sell Local

1 Family

elderly & disabled

ACORN STRAIGHT STAIRLIFT, excellent condition, buyer to dismantle. £250 only. 0121 5339600 or 07954 438714.

MOBILITY SCOOTER, 4 wheels, fits in boot of car. 12 months old. As new. £350 only. 01543 674663.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

2 Leisure Time

bikes

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End Of Season Stock Clearance
Massive Reductions Across The Range
You beat our price we beat yours!
Book Your Cycle For Christmas Now At Sale Price!
Spares At Discount Prices
24 HOUR REPAIR SERVICE

HATELEY'S
Simply the best
Ring Dave on
01902 782344
458 Stafford Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton

camping equipment

FOLDING CAMPER 6 berth. Cassette toilet, cooker, sink, hot water. 240 V 12 volt. Full awning. Excellent condition. £2,990. 01543 278472.

car boot sales

SATURDAY BOOT SALE
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Super Sunday Boot Sale, A34, Brocton, Between Cannock & Stafford, ST17 0SG. Now only £5

Wednesday & Saturday Bootsale, Barracks Lane, Muckley Corner, Lichfield WS9 9DL
07890 267041
www.bestbootsales.com

CAR BOOT SALES!
Every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday
Every Sunday
Muckley Corner, Hall Lanes, Lichfield, WS14 0BE

Boaters £3.50
6.00am-2pm
Meat Van Required
07538 842842

caravans / motorhomes

STATIC CARAVAN FOR SALE
Privately Owned Site At GOLDEN SANDS HOLIDAY PARK (NORTH WALES)
12 Month or 10.5 Month Season
£10,995
2015 Site Fees Paid
CALL
07595 711381

BOAT AND CARAVAN Marine, caravan, Servicing, winterisation, storage to mooring service. Renovation valeting. 07970046963

COMPASS RALLY 460
16ft, 2 berth, 1999, separate/bathroom shower, full oven/cooker, flyscreens/blinds, BA heat. Very good condition inside/out. Many more extras! £1,850 only. 07541 530 946.

SALOP LEISURE
Over 150 New and Pre Owned Touring Caravans and Motorhomes in stock. Prices starting from £1,995 Swift, Sprite, Sterling, Bailey, Elddis, Coachman, Bessacore. 7 day service department. 2015 PRACTICAL CARAVAN DEALER OF THE YEAR. For more info call Paul on 07872 671153

KNAUS SUNTI motorhome, 07, diesel, 21k miles, 11 months MoT, 4 berth, fixed bed, lovely condition. £28,000 only. 07714 544498.

STATIC CARAVAN
2006 Atlas Super Ruby located on Bryn Y Mor, Tywyn (near Aberdovey), 2 bedrooms, excellent condition. Site Fees paid to March 2016
£12,000 only
07968407001

STATIC CARAVAN Willerby Granada 32x12 2bed sited at searivers both sy24 51z bargain £6995 07462 343 698

NEW 2015 STATIC CARAVAN £19,995 - Willerby Aurora 35 x 12 Two Bedrooms, Double Glazing, Central Heating. Available now on over 200 holiday park locations across the Heart Of England, Mid Wales & the Mid Wales Coast. Free Buyers Guide available call Scott on 07803290682

VW APACHE MOTORHOME Diesel, 1993, MoT Dec. 4-Berth. Good, clean condition. 18,000 miles. £9,500, o.n.o. Telephone 07909 985414.

WANTED Awaiting for Motorhome, Peugeot Boxer approx 250 x 250cm. 07790 594778.

12ft CARAVAN for Sale on 4 Star park, gym, sauna, 3 pool, 18' bar, 5 mins to beach, kids club. Site fees inc., on North Wales coast. Must see, £10,400. Call 01745 342255.

caravans wanted

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CARAVAN WANTED
Can pick up ASAP.
Call me on
07717 090817

music shop

BOOSEY AND HAWKS Tenor Trombone wanted. Also Bach Stradivarius Trombone wanted. 07977 075512.

holidays

caravan holidays

TOWNYN N.WALES, Caravans to let, small site, good rates, all facilities 01745 334897 or 07766 306230.

devon

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LIMITED AVAILABILITY For September
Ring for dates

FAMILY ROOMS AVAILABLE
CHILD DISCOUNTS
All rooms en suite
100 yards to beach and pier
Contractors Welcome
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Self Catering Holiday Apartments
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WOODLANDS NEW QUAY, WALES
Pet friendly CHALETs from £285 per week. Also Lodges
Delightful wooded park Minutes from harbour and sandy beaches
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www.woodlandsnewquay.co.uk

what's on

markets

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Bank's Stadium, Walsall FC
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07889 975701 All hard standing

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OAK PARK LEISURE CENTRE
Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood (A461)
Sunday 13th September 2015
10.30 am - 3.00 pm
OVER 65 TABLES
Toys, Cars and Trains, etc.
Old and New
Admission Adults £1.50 Seniors £1.20 Children 60p
TRANSTAR PROMOTIONS
(01922) 643385

3 Home & Services

collectables & memorabilia

COIN COLLECTION gold, silver and copper.
For details, 07719 087899.

furniture

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LOANS FROM £200 - £750
Representative 399.7% apr
Weekly Rep: £100
Reg office: Royal House, Cannock, ST2 8JL
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www.loansathome4u.co.uk
Compare the price of home collected and other cash loans available in your area. Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

WANTED FOR CASH three piece suites, up to £100 paid
Call 01785 815925/07947 627142

WANTED to buy or rent. Catering Unit with site or cafe, tidy, very experienced.
Telephone 01922 512935.

loans

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loans

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in your garden

A BARGAIN A lush green lawn turf, cut fresh in easy to lay rolls £1.50 per roll. Prompt deliveries daily. Trent Valley Turf: 01902 738817.

SAND, TOPSOIL, DECORATIVE gravels 11 Tonne direct loads at cheap rates. D. Gill Building & Garden Supplies 01922 452221/452266 7 days.

SLABS 450mm x 450mm Riven faced, only £1.76 inc. VAT. Ranton Building Supplies: 01543 276006.

items for sale

CANNOCK EXCHANGE
We buy & sell quality used goods: Car audio, Air Rides, TVs & Laptops, Bikes, Gold, Gutters & Aps, Group/Bike Gear etc. Try us! No Furniture.
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Open Tues to Sat 10am-6pm
01543 570990 Closed Sun & Mon

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222

CHEAP INDIAN SANDSTONE paving from £15.50 per square metre including VAT. Choice of colours. Ranton Building Supplies LTD 01543 276006

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ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce
CASH PAID TODAY
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All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester
Morcroft • Lladro • Old coins
• Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys
• Clocks • Paintings • All silver
• Chinese items • Old ivory
• Military items
Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID for antiques, also old fashioned furniture, leather winged arm chairs and Chesterfield settees 01902 454144 or 0121 526 3375.

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HOUSE CLEARANCES Coins, Medals, Records and Bric A Brac. The Curio Shop, 61 George Street, Walsall, WS1 1RS. 07841 596254

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

WANTED FOR CASH three piece suites, up to £100 paid
Call 01785 815925/07947 627142

WANTED to buy or rent. Catering Unit with site or cafe, tidy, very experienced.
Telephone 01922 512935.

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All areas covered
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See us on 'Rated People'.
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P.FENLON BUILDERS All aspects of building. Block paving, plastering, brickwork etc. 01902 445315 / 07790 286187.

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(Over 35 years Trading)
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ESTABLISHED OVER 100 YEARS
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4 Pets & Animals

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7 Jobs

full time - general

pets corner

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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

KOI CARP, mixed sizes, job lot or will split. Call Steve on 07857 893607.

vets

Express & Star

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

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business directory

business opportunities

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PSV DRIVER - 2 hours am & 2 hrs pm Mon-Fri for school contracts. Must have enhanced CRB, CPC & PSV licence. 01785 714124.

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8 Motoring

cars under £1500

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FORD FOCUS TDCI, 54 reg, reasonable condition, turbo whistles but drives perfect, MOT Dec, £600 ono. 07891 684560.

FORD KA NOW, 2001, 117,000 miles, bronze, FSH, running and used daily. MOT till Feb, £200 ono. For details call 01384 252066.

HONDA CIVIC INSPIRE 2003, 22,400 miles, blue, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, long MOT, central locking, pas, genuine mileage. £1,400. 01922 451774.

LANDROVER FREELANDER 2000, 97,000 Miles. GreenTarga Top. New Head and Gasquet. 4 new tyres. Petrol. MOT'd till April. Very good condition. £795 07702 320577.

PEUGEOT 206 LX, 52 plate, 3-dr hatch, good condition, good tyres / alloys. EW, new cam belt. £650ono. 01785 241747. 07800 824569.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE, 03, 77k, MOT May 16, alloys, S/R, E/W, E/M, new clutch, 2 remote keys. £725. ono. 07740 268630.

RENAULT CLIO, 1997, 115,000 miles, blue, alarm, long MOT, central locking, pas, sunroof, alloys, £300 ono. 01543 304182.

ROVER 25 1.4 SPECIAL, 2001, 41k, 1 owner, gold met, a/c, elw, alloys, new tyres and battery, lovely condition, £800 ono. 01889 582354.

ROVER 45 1.6, 2003, 49,000 miles, MOT April 2016, good condition. £850 ono. 0121 526 4630.

ROVER 45 X reg, diesel, 80,000, full MOT. Very good condition, £950 ono. 07864 842 076.

VAUXHALL CORSA, 2004, 74k miles, MOT, fsh, good condition, ideal 1st car. £1,200 ono. 07469 840722.

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STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004
The Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1 (Amendment) No. 34/2015

1. Staffordshire County Council on 08 September 2015 made a Traffic Order under Sections 1, 2, 4, 32, 35, 45, 46, 47, 49, 53, 124 (1)(d) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and the Traffic Management Act 2004 which:

(a) prevents you from parking your vehicle at any time between the hours of 8am and 9am and 3pm and 4pm on Monday to Friday inclusive on:

Gorsley Lane/Holly Lane, Great Wyrley (east side) – from a point approximately 70 metres west of the centre line of the junction with Tower View Road in a north westerly direction for a distance of approximately 115 metres to the point where the existing restriction ends.

2. Exceptions permit waiting for the purposes of taking up and setting down passengers; loading or unloading goods; for vehicles displaying a Disabled Person's Badge; and where necessary in connection with the maintenance of roads and the supply of gas, electricity, telephones, sewerage services and water and in the service of the Environment Agency; for emergency service vehicles; for vehicles being used for the provision of a universal postal service by a universal service provider; for buses waiting at an authorised bus stop; for vehicles being used for floods defence works or land drainage works; and for so long as is reasonably necessary in connection with any wedding or funeral.

3. This Order amends the Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1.

4. This Order is called the Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1 (Amendment) No. 34/2015.

5. This Order amends the Plan marked BJ 258 incorporating waiting restrictions on the road specified in Article No. 1 above and which form part of the Staffordshire County Council (South Staffordshire) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places) Order No 1 and in substitution thereof.

6. Full details of the Order, together with a map showing the road involved, may be examined during normal office hours at the office of the Deputy Chief Executive & Director for Place; 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH and during normal opening hours at Great Wyrley Library, Quinton Court, Wardles Lane, Great Wyrley, WS6 6DY or via the internet at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders.

7. Any person who desires to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant sections of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 or on the grounds that any requirement of those sections or of Parts I, II, and III of Schedule 9 of the Act or any regulations made under the said Part III of Schedule 9 of the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, may, within six weeks of the date on which the Order was made, make an application for the purpose to the High Court.

8. The Order will come into operation on 16 September 2015

John Tradewell, Director of Law, Democracy and Transformation, 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Date 10 September 2015

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2015 - ARTICLE 15(4)


Application Number : CH.15/10/779 W
Severn Trent Water Limited application for Improvements to access at Brindley Heath Sewage Pumping Station, Rugeley Road, Hedsford, Cannock.

Members of the public may view the submitted application, plans and other documents via the Staffordshire Planning web page www.staffordshire.gov.uk/planning (Find a current application). Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so no later than 1 October 2015 by commenting on-line via the Staffordshire Planning web page; by emailing to planning@staffordshire.gov.uk; or by writing to Planning, Policy & Development Control, Staffordshire County Council, 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH. Please note: all comments and representations received in writing will be taken into account and are open to be read by all.

Signed: Darryl Evers on behalf of Staffordshire County Council
Date : 10 September 2015

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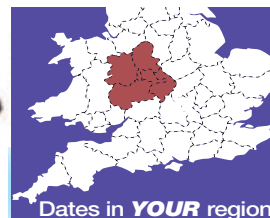
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Saddlers are taken by Shakers in tussle

Walsall 0 Bury 1

THERE are times in every foot-ball season when you come away from a game scratching your head at what you've just seen. For Saddlers fans, this was one of those occasions as Bury headed back north with three League One points.

Some will call it a smash and grab, others will praise the Shakers for what was a truly impressive defensive display.

But in truth there is nobody who could leave the Banks's Stadium and, with their hand on their heart, say Dean Smith's men did not deserve at least a point.

Credit must go to Bury boss Dave Flitcroft for the way he organised his side. With a bank of five protecting a bank of four, it became hugely difficult for Walsall to break through.

Flitcroft lined up his charges in a 4-5-1 formation with Craig Jones and the talented Danny Mayor always going to be a threat on the break.

And they got the early lead their manager must have dreamed off when Jones brilliantly fired home after an excellent crossfield ball by Chris Hussey.

The Shakers, with Mayor particularly lively, remained a threat for the opening half an hour.

But as Walsall grew in stature, the visitors were forced to abandon their pacy counter-attacking plan and replace it with a simple backs-to-the-wall job.

But having seen his team largely outplayed, Flitcroft was gracious in victory.

"They play football in the right way. They attack you with real verve so I'm very proud of my lads for standing up to it."

Taylor: We must break down teams

DEFENDER Andy Taylor believes Walsall need to find more ways to break down teams following their frustrating defeat to Bury.

The Saddlers slipped off top spot in League One after Dave Flitcroft's Shakers came away from the Banks's Stadium with a 1-0 victory.

But the result didn't tell the story of the game with Dean Smith's side dominating possession while Bury sat back to defend a sixth-minute lead given to them by winger Craig Jones. And while Taylor felt there were many positives in the performance, he says they count for nothing if the Saddlers don't win games.

"Frustration is the right word for that game," he said.

"We controlled possession but we just couldn't find that goal. On another day we would have won it comfortably."

Smashing success for scheme



Celebrating the Tennis for Free scheme's success

NATIONAL sports charity 'Tennis For Free' has served up an ace for Hednesford Park after more than 250 people registered for the scheme.

The charity has created a partnership with Cannock Chase District Council and Cheslyn Hay Tennis Club to help provide free coach led tennis sessions for all the family between 10am and 12noon every Sunday.

Players who might be interested in the scheme don't even need a

racquet as all equipment is provided free of charge.

Local professional tennis coach Chris Perrin who is managing the scheme said: "We are really excited to continue to run free coach-led tennis sessions at Hednesford Park every week. We are amazed by the uptake for tennis within the area with under 11's, teenagers and adults all taking part.

"It's a great chance to try tennis and find out what a great sport it is. With September and October

often good months for tennis here, it is a great time to start the sport but then continue throughout the year. We don't want anyone to feel nervous or worried about coming down and trying! Just turn up."

You can register online at www.hednesfordparktennis.co.uk or for further information visit www.tennisforfree.com. You can also follow Tennis For Free on twitter @tennisforfree or contact local tennis coach and scheme leader Chris Perrin on 07969 829318.

Sam setting his sights on double figure tally

WALSALL midfielder Sam Mantom has challenged himself to hit double figures for the season following his flying start to the new campaign.

Three goals in the month of August, including a header in the 4-0 win at Blackpool, have led the 23-year-old to revise his scoring target.

The goals – together with his box-to-box displays – saw the midfielder earn a nomination for the Sky Bet player of the month award. And while he missed out to Coventry's Adam Armstrong, Mantom's early form means he is now targeting a minimum of 10 goals for the season.

"The target has changed – it is now double figures," he said. "At the start of the season I was aiming for five or six. But to get out of August with three, I've now got to go for double figures.

"I said at the start of the season I need to get more goals. To improve my game it needs to happen. But three goals in a single month is something I didn't really think I could do. I'm delighted it has happened though. I've now got to aim for double figures."

Mantom believes Walsall's new attacking ethos has been key to him hitting the goal trail.

And the midfielder revealed he has been given increased licence to go forward by boss Dean Smith.

"At the minute I have got more licence to roam and I'm enjoying getting in the box and creating chances for everybody else," Mantom said.

"But as a team we have become more free-roaming. Last season the amount of goals we scored was an issue."

Community club has sporting ambitions

THEY are called Wolverhampton Sporting Community Football Club – and they are certainly doing their best to live up to that moniker.

The team, whose men's senior side play in the West Midlands Premier, are developing on and off the pitch, and club bosses want more people to be part of their developing success story.

The club expanded their youth set-up with the launch of an Under-14s side as well as an Under-18s team and have improved ground facilities at their Great Wyrley home, Pride Park on Hazel Lane.

First team manager Andy Paddock said: "When I came here in January there were two teams, the first team and the Under 21s.

"Now we have four. We have just set up an Under-14s team and we have taken over the running of Cresswell Wanderers Under-18s, who we are looking to put into a Sunday Under-21s league.

"We have got some really good coaches at the club so it is all there for anybody who wants to get involved. We never turn away anybody if they are prepared to put the commitment in.

"If they put the effort and time in we will work with them and try to make them better – and that runs from top to bottom."

The first team plays games on predominantly on Tuesdays and Saturdays and remains ambitious.

Having avoided relegation by 10 points last season, they are targeting bigger and better things this time around.

They remain on course for a top 10 finish having won three of their opening six games.

The club, which formed in 2001, is sustained by a small committee and a dedicated coaching staff of around a dozen people in total headed by chairman John Quarry.

They have overseen a major overhaul of the ground in the last 18 months with improvements including floodlights, altering of the pitch size, creating a female referees changing rooms and adding more sheltering for supporters as well as putting new fencing up.

The club is currently looking for sponsors. For details or information about joining a team email wolvessporting@yahoo.co.uk or call 07710 402235.



The Wolverhampton Sporting Community FC official team shot at Hazel Lane, Great Wyrley



Sporting players in training at their home ground



Sporting's first team manager Andy Paddock

Contract talks on way with Wolves' stars

WOLVES are poised to resume player contract talks in the coming weeks as Kenny Jackett looks to tie down senior members of his squad.

With the transfer window closed, the head coach has turned attentions back toward securing some of his more high-profile stars on longer-term deals.

Kevin McDonald, Scott Golbourne and James Henry are among those currently in the first team with contracts which are set to expire next summer and Jackett admitted discussions are likely to take place in the coming weeks.

"It's something we have discussed and will discuss and act on," he said, when asked about the contract situation.

"Now the window is closed there will be further discussions, followed by decisions."

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Jackett set to become loan hopeful for striker

WOLVES boss Kenny Jackett is ready to make a move in the loan market to ease his side's striker shortage.

With Nouha Dicko ruled out for nine months with a serious knee injury, Benik Afobe and Adam Le Fondre are now the only two senior forwards in the squad.

Attempts to add another striker in the closing hours of the transfer window came to nothing despite the club making what Jackett described as "significant bids" for a number of targets.

With the emergency loan window opening yesterday (Wednesday), the head coach is now ready to recommence his efforts.

"We certainly tried but no, there wasn't any luck," said Jackett. "It was a tough call through from Saturday night to Tuesday but Kevin Thelwell and Jez Moxey made several significant bids."

Bournemouth's Yann Kermorgant and Crystal Palace's Frazier Campbell were among those linked to Wolves and could now be possible targets in the loan window.

Jackett added: "We will keep our eye on things because on our frontline we are an injury away from maybe struggling. Having said that, with two goalscorers in Afobe and Le Fondre, we have a number of players who can play behind the striker."

"Young Bright (Enobakhare) has looked a fantastic prospect in pre-season.

"The likes of James Henry, Jed Wallace and Nathan Byrne can play behind the striker as well. I do feel that is an option for us but certainly to be as strong as possible and have strikers on the bench is something you do need."

Phoenix are sunk as Utd show four-ce

Cannock Utd 4 Walsall Ph'x Res 3

CANNOCK United's unbeaten run continues as they saw off Walsall Phoenix Res in a hard fought Staffordshire County Senior League game.

Cannock went one down to an odd goal on nine minutes, which bounced over everyone to be tipped in by Farrington. Josh Griffiths scored his first senior goal on 24 minutes to bring Cannock level and scored again two minutes later. United drove on to the break 3-1 up after Travis McCarty got his season's first.

Walsall pushed Cannock back, with Turner scoring on 78 minutes. Walsall's spirits lifted and they levelled it at 3-3 on 85 minutes. But Cannock came back in the dying seconds as Ash Gunn nodded home a perfect cross from Tom Dyer.

Scholars look for home comforts

Chasetown 0 Market Drayton 1

CHASETOWN went down 1-0 to Market Drayton Town on Tuesday night – their second 1-0 home defeat in succession and one of those nights that their supporters will wonder how they didn't make all three points theirs.

Inside 15 minutes, Nathan Waite, Stan Mugisha and Jono Gould all had chances.

But as is often the way the visitors took the lead with their first chance with Thomas Lowe driving home with a crisp shot beyond John Bateman.

Drayton keeper Ash Rawlins made a great save with his face to block Waite from three yards out. Then, after Paul McMullen could only partly clear Rawlins parried and grasped Gould's volley at the second attempt.

Chasetown threw everything forward in a fruitless attempt to force an equaliser and in the dying seconds Lee Butler received a straight red card.

Chasetown 0 Basford 1

BASFORD maintained their 100 per cent away record but Chasetown will consider themselves very unfortunate not to have shared the points. In the 15th minute the Scholars went close to breaking the deadlock when Lee Butler and Nathan Waite combined to set up Stan Mugisha and his close-range stooping header was saved on the line by Saul Deeney.

A minute later, the visitors took the lead with a crisp finish from range from midfielder Ben Hutchinson's free-kick.

Despite dominating much of the game territorially, the Scholars lacked the finishing touches to level the scores as they remain win-less at home.

Burntwood on back foot as tries fly in

Newcastle (Staffs) 45 Burntwood 17
Staffs Intermediate Cup – Quarter Final

AFTER 49 minutes Burntwood were only a point behind at 18-17. Twelve minutes later the deficit was 20 points as the hosts ran in three tries and added two conversions to effectively seal the tie.

The visitors contributed to their own downfall during that spell with some threadbare defending down the blind side of two scrums and then, as they tried to respond, a pass was intercepted for a length of the field try under the posts.

Turnover possession was moved left to Newcastle's ever dangerous Sam Evans who pivoted his way over the line for the first try.

Ben Holt's side hit back. The ball was moved along the backs and centre Danny Duggan muscled his way over the line to level.

A good break by the Newcastle outside half, Dom Ellerton, had Burntwood back-peddalling and conceding a penalty which the same player goaled for 8-5.

Advantage

The hosts were now on top territorially and had the advantage of an extra man for 10 minutes as Luke Rookyard was yellow-carded. Newcastle quickly capitalised with a catch and drive try from a line out.

With 37 minutes gone, winger Rob Jones initiated an attack after fielding a Newcastle clearance kick. Owen Rookyard found a good running line to breach the home defence and dot down under the posts for a try which he also converted.

An error at the restart saw Newcastle reclaim possession and move the ball out right. An interchange at pace led to an unconverted try in the corner to complete the first half action.

Burntwood scored three minutes into the second period. Sean Brennan won line out possession to set up a good drive. Scrum half Brett Taylor popped the ball to Matt Sissons and the winger scored in the corner for a try.

The decisive spell of the match followed just six minutes later.

Twice the Burntwood pack put pressure on the home scrum but each time they left the side door open as the scrum half and then winger Evans



lan Jones tries to power his way through for Burntwood as they struggled to rein in hosts Newcastle

both exploited the blind side for tries. Then, as Burntwood attacked superbly from turnover ball with Taylor darting close to the line, a pass out wide was picked off under the home posts for a breakaway try and conversion. With time almost up Newcastle reached the 40 points mark courtesy of a penalty goal and then four minutes into stoppage time another missed pass was intercepted and Ellerton was away to the corner to complete the scoring.

There was success for the other Burntwood sides which took the field over the weekend. The 2nds improved as the game went on the defeat Essington 36-28 at The Sportsway and on Sunday the colts travelled to Ashby and came back with a win by 36-26.

This Saturday Burntwood open their league campaign with the visit of Wednesbury, kick off 3pm, and the 2nds begin merit table fixtures with an away match v Stafford Development.

Sidelined Dicko eyes chance for play-offs

WOLVES striker Nouha Dicko is refusing to admit his season is over and he vows to battle back from his serious knee injury.

The Mali international tore his anterior cruciate ligament during the 2-1 win over Charlton and is expected to be sidelined for nine months.

A return this season is unlikely, but Dicko, who was set to undergo surgery this week, said: "I refuse to admit my season is over and refuse to be defeated by the injury."

"I'm not going to rush anything and we will see but I will do my best to recover as best as possible and if I could make it back before the end of the season that would be fantastic. I am trying to stay positive and I know with the medical staff here I will get well looked after."

He added: "I will try and recover the best I can and if I can be here before the end of the season then great. If we can make it to the play-offs then I might be there."

Dicko, along with Benik Afobe and Bakary Sako, was key to Wolves' attack last term and finished the campaign with 15 goals.

The popular 23-year-old thanked supporters for their messages of support after the seriousness of his injury was revealed. "I would really like to thank them for that," he said. "I want to make a good recovery and that support all the way through the process will make a real difference."

Meanwhile, Wolves' Championship game at Fulham later this month has been moved from Wednesday September 16 to Tuesday September 29 due to Chelsea playing Maccabi Tel Aviv on the same night.

'Model pro' Afobe praised for attitude

WOLVES striker Benik Afobe has been praised for his 'professional' attitude in the face of constant speculation regarding his future.

Premier League Norwich City had three bids for Afobe turned down before the transfer window closed, including a final offer of £10 million.

Afobe kept quiet during the speculation, until sending a cryptic tweet six minutes after the 6pm deadline, saying: "Out of darkness cometh light."

Kenny Jackett said he had sympathy for his star striker whose future has been up in the air. But he praised Afobe's attitude.

Jackett said: "He's been very professional. I've got a lot of sympathy for him, it's a very difficult situation, we've been honest with him, we've told him every time there's been a bid."

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Staffs hope to push on after final

STAFFORDSHIRE Over-50s are hungry for more success following a superb season that saw them reach the ECB National County Championship final.

Staffs had to settle for the runners-up slot as they lost to a strong Yorkshire side but even that setback can't take the gloss off what has been a summer to remember for Tony Dutton's side.

The White Rose county took the spoils by nine wickets after winning a crucial toss with Staffs dismissed for 104 in bowler-friendly conditions. "It was just not our day," said secretary Paul Kent. "But being second best in the country isn't a failure by any means. We are just disappointed that we didn't make a better show of it in the final.

"We hope our success this season will help attract more players. We have a meeting planned for October to put our plans into place for next year. We have had a taste of it and we want some more.

An early start conspired to make life extra difficult for Staffs as they were quickly reduced to 7-4 by some impressive Yorkshire bowling. Rob Heath (28), Jeremy Scott (17), Chris Rhodes (16 not out) and Andy Kenwyn (14) provided some resistance down the order as Staffs were dismissed for 104 - with Yorkshire then powering to victory.

"The early start worked against us," said Kent. "The normal games started at 1pm but the final had an 11am start and whoever won the toss was going to put the opposition into bat.

"The pitch became easier as the game wore on and 104 was never going to be enough. Everytime we looked like getting a partnership going, we found a way of getting out. But it was a fabulous occasion and the ECB looked after us really

Hayes' dreams of Wembley dashed by Bromsgrove

Heath Hayes 1 Bromsgrove 4
A SECOND half collapse saw off Hayes's Wembley dreams put on hold for another year when they were soundly beaten by a rampant display by a very professional Bromsgrove side.

After taking an early lead when Dan Scragg was gifted a goal by Bromsgrove keeper Bunn whose misplaced pass was intercepted. Although under pressure Hayes held a half-time lead, but the second half saw Bromsgrove come out in full force attacking the Hayes goal with full force.

It took only five minutes for the visitors to equalise when Sam Willis took advantage of some slack defending. In the very next attack Willis got his second after good work down the right wing.

Hayes did come back into it when when Kimberley and Hartshorne had shots blocked and the post was hit

Going forward looking for an equaliser Hayes left gaps at the back which were exploited when Willis completed his hat-trick following by a goal from Luke Dugmore. The game was watched by a very healthy crowd helped by a good following from Bromsgrove.

McNally in return to Keys Park hotseat



Return - Bernard McNally

HEDNESFORD Town have re-appointed former Albion and Northern Ireland star Bernard McNally as their manager. McNally, 52, arrives at Keys Park for a second stint in charge after serving as boss in the 2009/2010 campaign.

He replaces Rob Smith and Larry Chambers, who both left the Pitmen to return to AFC Telford United over a week ago. "It's exciting, no doubt about that," McNally said.

"I want to have some longevity here

By Lewis Cox

now and I'm looking at the next three to four years as we look to get the club and the team moving in the right direction. As soon as I heard about the vacancy I was in straight away for it."

Hednesford caretaker manager Chris Brindley will take up a new role as assistant boss as McNally looks to continue the club's promising form since the departure of Smith and Chambers.

A club statement said: "The new management team will bring much needed continuity.

"McNally is an experienced and highly-qualified coach whose skills on the training ground will complement perfectly Chris Brindley's knowledge of the squad and of The National League North division."

McNally made nearly 300 appearances for his home town club before Albion paid £385,000 for him in 1989, where he played for six years.

PITMEN SNEAK IT AT THE DEATH

Hednesford Town 3 Boston 2
A STOPPAGE time goal from defender Tyrone Williams earned Hednesford all three points against a Boston United side who had battled back from a 2-0 half-time deficit.

The Pitmen were aiming to build on the bank holiday Monday 4-1 triumph at Worcester as they looked for their second victory under caretaker manager Chris Brindley.

It took the game some time to get going with Town striker Kyle Perry firing over the bar in the tenth minute, while at the other end goalkeeper Dave Parton had to react quickly as Hednesford's Ben Bailey cleared a ball towards his own goal two minutes later.

The breakthrough finally arrived on the half-hour after an exquisite ball from Williams found Ahmed Obeng and the striker finished with aplomb underneath Alexander.

Four minutes later it was 2-0 when, following a long throw into the box from Bailey, the ball found its way to Williams who prodded home from inside the six-yard box.

Although the visitors tried to respond, with defender Scott Garner firing wildly out of the ground from the edge of the box, the home team should have been out of sight by half-time.

Flash

Bailey saw a low effort flash wide of the upright before Alexander made a fine save from Obeng, and then the goalkeeper was in action again soon afterwards to deny Kennedy Digie all in a four minute period before the break.

Right on the stroke of half-time came a big talking point as Boston defender Carl Piergianni went through the back of Perry but only picked up a yellow card when it looked as if worse punishment would follow.

Three minutes into the second period Obeng was again denied as his shot deflected on to the post before seeing another effort saved by Alexander, with Digie heading the resulting corner wide of the upright. This proved crucial as the away side got themselves back in it on the hour when Mark Jones fired home from 12 yards.

Three minutes later they should really have



Ahmed Obeng celebrates after giving the Pitmen the lead

been level when Dayle Southwell broke away but he poked his effort the wrong side of the post.

Hednesford should have wrapped the game up in the 74th minute when Obeng surged clear and although the Boston defender got back the striker was unsure whether to shoot or pass and when he did the latter his ball to Perry was too short.

The home side's dominance looked to have been undone with ten minutes to go as Boston levelled when Piergianni drilled the ball low into the bottom corner after Town had failed to clear their lines.

Although obviously rocked by this the Pitmen didn't give up and were able to pick up three

points in the most dramatic of circumstances. As Rollins broke forward for Boston in the last seconds of stoppage time, he was dispossessed with Paul Ennis driving forward and playing in Williams. He composed himself and finished superbly.

The Pitmen travel to Alfreton this Saturday. Kick off is at 3pm.

Hednesford Town: Parton, Disney, James, Bailey, Williams T, Thorley, Williams S, Modest (Ennis 88), Perry (Robinson 85), Obeng (Todd 78), Digie
Subs not used: Adams, Spencer
Boston United: Alexander, Marrs, Roberts (Friend 78), Stone (Mills 53), Garner, Piergianni, Rollins, Dixon, Southwell, Jones, McGhee (Dowie 53)
Subs not used: Johnson, Ravas
Attendance: 510

Single-run win to lift T20 trophy

Cannock 2nds (135-7) beat Penn 2nds (134-7) by 1 run

CANNOCK were crowned Staffs Clubs 2nd team T20 champions in a thrilling victory over Penn.

Battling first, Mike Stevenson scored 36, Dan Wood 28 and Mike Chadderton 24. In reply, John Cook, Dan Wood and Jamie Probert all took two wickets. With 12 needed of the last over Cannock held their nerve to win by one run.

Cannock 3rds (a/o) lost to Penn 3rds (83-1) by 9 wickets

The Staffs Clubs 3rd team T20 final was also contested by Cannock and Penn but on this occasion Penn ran out easy winners after bowling Cannock out for just 79 and then reaching their target in the 17th over.

Cannock 1sts (179-4) beat Lichfield 1sts (175 a/o) by 6 wickets

Cannock's victory takes them to third place in the table. Wes Marshall took three Lichfield wickets and then scored 120, his seventeenth century of the season.

Cannock 2nds (85-2) beat Lichfield 2nds (81 a/o) by 8 wickets

Bowling first on a wet pitch Cannock bowled Lichfield all out for just 81 with Joe Tennant taking 3-11 and John Cooke 2-12. Cannock reached their target in 20 overs with John Cooke (25) and Dan Wood (24no) top scoring.

Cannock 3rds (162-5) beat Fordhouses 3rds (104 a/o) by 58 runs

Martin Davies scored 51 and Ian Slyn 46 of Cannock's total. After a good start Fordhouses reply faltered with Ant Wood taking 5-28.

Cannock 4ths (93-3) beat Beacon 4ths (91 a/o) by seven wickets

Ryan Pearce took three wickets, while James Boden's unbeaten 51 saw Cannock home.

Evans bowled over to be on ITV's team

LOCAL Crown Green bowler Mel Evans MBE has been signed up by ITV to be part of their commentary team for the finals of famous Waterloo Handicap.

The tournament is the most prestigious in the sport and has been played at the Waterloo Hotel Stadium in Blackpool since 1907.

The final stages will be live on ITV4 on Tuesday and Wednesday September 15 and 16, with live uninterrupted coverage from 10am-5pm each day.

Mel said: "It's the first time for 26 years since Crown Green Bowls has been on terrestrial television and is a great boost for the sport."

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